



House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of Calif. speaks during a new conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, after dropping out of the race to replace House Speaker John Boehner.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

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Clinton seeks a crackdown for breaking rules on Wall Street

LISA LERER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just days before the first Democratic presidential debate, Hillary Rodham Clinton released a series of proposals aimed at cracking down on bad behavior by Wall Street, vowing that individual bankers who violate the law will be “prosecuted and imprisoned.” A new proposal released by her campaign would impose a graduated “risk fee” on financial companies with more than \$50 billion in assets that would increase as companies hold greater amounts of debt to discourage excessive risk. Clinton’s campaign estimates that banks and other institutions would pay an annual charge of “multiple billions of dollars,” according to a summary provided by the campaign. A separate tax would be levied on high-frequency trading, targeting trading strategies that involve significant numbers of order cancellations, a practice her campaign says makes markets “less stable and less fair.”

“There are risks in our financial system that could still cause another crisis,” Clinton wrote in an op-ed published in Bloomberg View. “To prevent irresponsible behavior on Wall Street from ever again devastating Main Street, we need more accountability, tougher rules and stronger enforcement.”

Liberal Democrats have spent months calling on Clinton to take a more aggressive approach to regulating Wall Street. In recent weeks, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders has gained ground against her in early primary states with a populist economic message that vows to take on the “billionaires.”

“Given the image of big banks today, it is easy now to take on Wall Street. I was there when it was not so popular,” Sanders said, in a statement.

Clinton’s close ties to Wall Street and the centrist economic policies of the administration of her husband, former President Bill Clinton, make some in her party skeptical of her populist credentials. Both Clintons have earned millions in speaking fees, including some from Wall Street banks, and daughter Chelsea and her husband have worked at hedge funds.

About a dozen of Clinton’s top campaign bundlers — donors who have raised at least \$100,000 for her presidential bid — work in finance and investing. In July, a day after proposing higher capital gains taxes on short-term investors, Clinton raised at least \$450,000 Tuesday night at the Chicago home of Raj Fernando, a longtime donor. His firm, Chopper Trading, specializes in high-frequency transactions and was recently purchased by Chicago-based competitor DRW.

Her new plan may not go far enough for elements of her party’s base, who would like to see the revival of a 1930s-era law banning financial institutions from combining their commercial banking operations with riskier investment banking. Two of her rivals, Sanders and former Maryland Gov. Martin O’Malley, say they’d like to see the law, called Glass-Steagall, restored. It was repealed during the administration of Clinton’s husband. “I certainly share the goal of never having to bail out the big banks again, but I prefer the path of tackling the most dangerous risks in a different way,” she wrote. In the first major economic speech of her presidential campaign, last July in New York City, Clinton expressed outrage at accounts of money laundering and currency manipulation involving several major financial firms. She said few rogue traders had faced consequences for malfeasance, a subtle swipe at the Obama administration, which took no action against the individual financial titans who pursued risky fiscal practices. □

McCarthy withdraws candidacy

ERICA WERNER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

With no warning, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy withdrew Thursday from the contest for speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, shocking fellow Republicans just before voting was to begin and plunging Congress into chaos. Lawmakers said they were thunderstruck and in disbelief following McCarthy’s announcement, which came moments after they had showed up for an

for speaker of the House.”

McCarthy said he would stay on as majority leader. The speaker’s election was postponed, as may be the scheduled Oct. 29 vote for speaker by the full House, Democrats as well as Republicans.

What happens next is unknown. McCarthy was by far the heavy favorite to replace Boehner. Congress is facing major budget deadlines and fiscal decisions.

At the White House, presidential spokesman Josh

candidate.

One leadership ally, Rep. Steve Stivers, said McCarthy “didn’t see a path to 218” — the number of votes needed to prevail on the House floor. McCarthy faced opposition from a bloc of 30-plus hardline conservative lawmakers who didn’t command the numbers to block him in Thursday’s secret-ballot elections, but might have prevented him from winning a floor vote later on in the month.

There was talk among



House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of Calif. walks out of nomination vote meeting on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, after dropping out of the race to replace House Speaker John Boehner, who is stepping down and retiring from Congress at the end of the month.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

election nearly certain to end with McCarthy as their pick for speaker. A mere two weeks ago outgoing Speaker John Boehner announced his plans to resign under conservative pressure, also without warning and stunning to all.

The speaker has the most powerful job in Congress and is second in line to succeed the president.

Boehner, who planned to leave Oct. 30, said in a statement he would stay on “until the House votes to elect a new speaker.”

“Over the last week it has become clear to me that our conference is deeply divided and needs to unite behind one leader,” McCarthy said. “I have always put this conference ahead of myself. Therefore I am withdrawing my candidacy

Earnest said it would be easy for Democrats to poke fun at the Republicans’ troubles if not for the serious issues Congress faces. He said the next speaker will have to tame a small but vocal group of lawmakers with a strong ideological bent or find a way to “buck up” more mainstream House Republicans.

The lawmaker most widely seen as a potential speaker in McCarthy’s place immediately ruled it out.

“Kevin McCarthy is best person to lead the House, and so I’m disappointed in this decision,” said Rep. Paul Ryan, the former vice presidential nominee who now chairs the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee. “While I am grateful for the encouragement I’ve received, I will not be a

some lawmakers of elevating a “caretaker” speaker who could serve with consensus support at least for the short term.

Rank-and-file lawmakers seemed unsure how to react or what to say as they milled around the lobby of the Longworth Office Building where they had gathered to eat barbecue and then — they thought — vote for a new speaker. Instead the meeting was adjourned moments after it began with McCarthy making his announcement as his wife and children looked on.

“He was making his plea this morning for speaker and this afternoon he’s out of the race. What happened in those four hours, I don’t know,” said Rep. John Fleming. □

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VW executive apologizes but says scandal not his fault

**MICHAEL BIESECKER
MATTHEW DALY**

**Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP)** — Volk-

swagen's top U.S. executive offered deep apologies yet sought to distance himself Thursday from the emissions scandal enveloping the world's largest automaker, asserting top corporate officials had no knowledge of the cheating software installed in 11 million diesel cars.

Though he said he hadn't been briefed on the preliminary findings of the ongoing internal investigation, Volkswagen of America CEO Michael Horn told a congressional subcommittee that a tiny group of software developers in Germany was responsible for the computer code that enabled the cars to trick U.S. government emissions tests. Three lower-level managers have been suspended.

"To my understanding this was not a corporate decision, this was something individuals did," Horn said, adding that he felt personally deceived.

That explanation left members of the House panel investigating the scheme incredulous.

"I agree it's very hard to believe," Horn conceded. Rep. Chris Collins, R-N.Y., was among the lawmakers who said he couldn't accept VW's characterization that "this was the work of a couple of rogue engineers." Collins, an engi-

neer, suggested that such a far-reaching cheating strategy couldn't be pulled off without the complicity of high-ranking supervisors across several parts of the company.

"What I've picked up here and I hope you can relay back to your board, the folks running Volkswagen back in Germany, is that the response so far is inadequate," Collins said. "It's a sign of arrogance. It's a sign of not admitting yet the severity of your problem."

For more than two hours, Horn sat calmly, occasionally sipping from a cup of water as news photographers' camera shutters clicked away. As the elected officials expressed anger, disappointment and skepticism at the company where he has worked for nearly half his life, the 51-year-old German executive apologized but provided little new information.

More than a month after the company first confessed the emissions-rigging to U.S. regulators, Horn said it doesn't yet have a detailed plan for fixing the nearly 500,000 "clean diesel" cars sold in the U.S. with the suspect software since the 2009 model year. Such a solution will likely take up to two years, he said, adding that each car might require between 5 and 10 hours' work by a mechanic to meet clean air standards.

The cars are safe to drive, the government says, but Horn suggested Volkswa-

documents and data storage devices" that could identify those involved in

with diesel engines. That raised questions about whether a "defeat device"



Volkswagen of America CEO Michael Horn testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, before the House Oversight and Investigations subcommittee hearing on Volkswagen's emissions-rigging scandal. Horn apologized Thursday as the emissions-rigging scandal engulfing the world's largest automaker deepened and members of Congress said the company violated the public's trust.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

gen could compensate some owners, possibly by paying them for the lost value of their vehicles. So far, the company has set aside more than \$7 billion to address the scandal, which Horn said may not be enough.

Shortly before Horn began his testimony, German police and prosecutors raided VW's global headquarters in Wolfsburg and other locations seeking material that would help clarify who was responsible for the cheating. The searches were intended to "secure

the alleged manipulation and explain how it was carried out, prosecutors said. In the U.S., the Environmental Protection Agency and the Justice Department are conducting a criminal investigation. VW also potentially faces billions in fines for violating the Clean Air Act, as well as a raft of state investigations and class-action lawsuits filed on behalf of customers. Horn said VW plans to withdraw applications seeking U.S. emissions certifications for its 2016 model Jettas, Golfs, Passats and Beetles

similar to that in earlier models is also in the new cars. By withdrawing the applications for the 2016 models, VW is leaving thousands of diesel vehicles stranded at ports nationwide. It was not immediately clear what a newly revealed device found in the new VW models does, or when the company might resubmit the applications needed to sell the cars. Liz Purchia, an EPA spokeswoman, said VW recently gave the agency information on an "auxiliary emissions control device." □



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US airman who thwarted French train attack stabbed



US Air Force Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone walks along the sidelines before an NFL football game in Landover, Md. An Air Force spokesman said Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, that Stone, who helped subdue an attacker on a Paris-bound train in August, is in stable condition after being stabbed in California.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)

DON THOMPSON
 JULIE WATSON
 Associated Press
 SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — U.S. airman Spencer Stone, celebrated as a hero for helping to stop a terror attack on a French train over the summer, was stabbed and seriously wounded outside a bar in his hometown early Thursday in what police said was an alcohol-related brawl.

Stone, 23, was knifed repeatedly in the upper body but was expected to survive, authorities said. He was taken to UC Davis Medical Center. "This incident is not related to terrorism in any way," Deputy Police Chief Ken Bernard said. "We know it's not related to what occurred in France months ago." A grainy surveillance video from a camera outside a

liquor store showed a man who appeared to be Stone fighting with several people at an intersection. The group spilled into the street as people took swings at each other, and one person got knocked down. Police said two assailants fled in a car. No immediate arrests were made. Bernard said Stone was out with four friends when they got into a fight with

another group of people. The deputy chief would not say what sparked the argument. He said there was no evidence the assailants knew who Stone was. Bernard said he did not know whether Stone was drinking, but others in his group were. In a statement, the hospital said Stone's family "appreciates the outpouring of love and support" and requests privacy.

In August, Stone and two of his childhood friends from Sacramento, National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos and college student Anthony Sadler, were vacationing in Europe when they sprang into action aboard a Paris-bound passenger train and tackled Ayoub El-Khazzani, a man with ties to radical Islam. He had boarded the train with a Kalashnikov rifle, a pistol and a box cutter. □

Gun found during arrest in teacher's death

PAUL ELIAS
 JANIE HAR
 Associated Press
 SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Authorities have recovered the gun believed to be the one used to kill a popular California tantra yoga teacher when they arrested three young people traveling in the victim's car, a sheriff's spokesman said Thursday. Marin County Sheriff's Lt. Doug Pittman said the three suspects will be extradited to California after

investigators tracked them from the homicide scene at a scenic hiking trail 20 miles (32 kilometers) north of San Francisco to a community dining hall 600 miles (1,000 kilometers) away in Portland, Oregon. Pittman declined to discuss the type of gun recovered and any more details, including a possible motive for the killing of Steve Carter on Monday evening. Authorities identified the suspects as Sean Michael Angold, 24, Morrison Haze

Lampley, 23, and Lila Scott Allgood, 18. The sheriff's office said none of the suspects has a known permanent address. No charges have been filed. A hiker found Carter's body about 6 p.m. Monday. Carter was still holding the leash of his dog, which was also shot. Carter's Doberman pinscher was turned over to the Marin County Humane Society and is expected to recover. □



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Honolulu begins final push to clear major homeless camp



A homeless man who had been living in a large encampment in the Kakaako neighborhood of Honolulu pushes his belongings away from the camp as city officials sweep the area, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015 in Honolulu. Honolulu city crews are clearing the final section of one of the largest homeless encampments in the nation, once home to hundreds of people.

(AP Photo/Cathy Bussewitz)

CATHY BUSSEWITZ

Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP)—Honolulu city crews on Thursday began clearing the final section of one of the largest homeless encampments in the U.S., once home to hundreds of people.

City officials said about 100 remaining homeless people would be affected by the two-day sweeps in a neighborhood with expensive high-rises near Waikiki, just steps from the Pacific Ocean.

But others thought that estimate was low. Beatriz Cantelmo, a deputy ambassador with the U.N. World Human Facility, said she counted 278 people still living in the encampment Wednesday, less than 24 hours before crews were set to start clearing them out.

"There's a huge disconnect," Cantelmo said, adding most people she talked to had not seen a case manager in a month. The section of the camp being emptied was home to many who had lived there for years, despite sporadic sweeps.

Outreach workers this week have been canvassing the encampment and encouraging people to pack their belongings. They informed people who lived there that buses would take them to shelters in Honolulu, Waipahu and Waianae. But early Thursday, tents still lined the streets. Some families said they still didn't know where they would go or what they would do with their belongings.

"You can expect all the homeless to spill into the other neighborhoods," said Tabatha Martin, who lives with her 4-year-old daughter and husband in a section of camp set to be cleared Friday.

Martin rode around on a bike Thursday gathering footage of the sweep with a GoPro. She estimated about 250 people were still living in the camp when crews showed up in the morning.

"Nobody here has a plan, really," Martin said. "People are under the impression that they're going to come right back."

Loveleen Mori, 27, held her dog and pulled a shopping cart full of her property as she weighed her options. She heard about the buses but couldn't figure out what she would do with her dogs or bicycles if she went to a shelter.

"I just, I don't know where to go with all my stuff," Mori said.

The sweeps in the camp started in early September, but the city has been enforcing rules that prohibit where homeless can set up for years. Concerned business owners and residents have been pushing to clear the encampments, saying they are a nuisance to tourists and a public safety hazard. Attorneys representing the ACLU and residents of the encampment have filed a lawsuit alleging the sweeps deprive people of their belongings.

Scott Morishige, the state coordinator on homelessness, said social service providers have been going to the area consistently for the past couple of months and have helped 104 people move into shelters or permanent housing.

"They have been engaging interpreters to help with the communication, and they have been making offers of shelter, and not only shelter, but also access to other help and resources to the individuals and families in the area," Morishige said. □

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US Financial Front:

America's winter holiday sales seen rising 3.7 percent

A. D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Americans are expected to spend at a slower pace than last year during the crucial winter holidays, weighed down by sluggish wage growth and other factors, according to the nation's largest retail industry trade group. The National Retail Federation, based in Washington, D.C., predicts holiday spending will be up 3.7 percent to \$630.5 billion, slower than the 4.1 percent increase during last year's November-December period. It would mark the first slowdown since 2012, when retailers were hurt by Super Storm Sandy, which disrupted households and businesses for months, as well as other distractions like a stalemate in Congress. The dollar figure excludes sales from autos, gas and restaurants but includes online spending. The group estimates that online spending should be up 6 percent to 8 percent for the two-month period to as much as \$105 billion. That would be in line with the 5.8 percent increase over last year's holiday season. Still, the holiday sales estimate is much higher than

the 10-year average of 2.5 percent. But the growth has been choppy since the deep downturn of 2008 when holiday sales fell 4.6 percent from the previous year. "While economic indicators have improved in several areas, Americans remain somewhat torn between their desire and their ability to spend," said Matthew Shay, CEO and president of the National Retail Federation in a release. "The fact remains consumers still have the weight of the economy on their minds, further explaining the complex retail spending environment we are seeing right now." The estimate is a barometer for retailers that depend on the last two months of the year, which on average, account for nearly 20 percent of annual retail industry sales. The figure also offers some insight into the mindset of the consumers, which make up to 70 percent of economic activity. Shoppers are faced with mixed messages. The U.S. economy looks healthy. In fact, economic growth is at a 3.9 percent annual rate from April through June, and unemployment has dropped to a seven year low of 5.1 percent.



Target shoppers Kelly Foley, left, Debbie Winslow, center, and Ann Rich in South Portland, Maine. Americans are expected to spend at a slower pace than last year during the crucial winter holidays, weighed down by sluggish wage growth and other factors, according to a forecast Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, from the National Retail Federation.

(AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty)

And consumer confidence in September is the highest since January. But investor concerns about an economic slowdown in China, the world's second largest economy, and other emerging markets have caused turmoil in the financial markets. And the September job report issued last Friday that shows U.S. employers cut back sharply on hiring raises concern that the U.S. economy is weakening. Moreover,

analysts say the only reason why the unemployment rate remains at 5.1 percent is because many Americans have stopped looking for work and are no longer counted as unemployed. And Americans are struggling with sluggish wage growth. Hourly wages are up 2.2 percent in the past year and haven't kept up with higher daily costs. Stores are also grappling with shoppers' shift away from clothing and other

traditional merchandise and more toward experiences like spas, concert tickets or big ticket necessities like cars. The National Retail Federation group said that a slower pace of job growth weighed down the forecast. And it also took into account a big wild card: potential disruptions from yet another government shutdown in mid-December that could also affect spending. □



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Syria:

Clashes intensify amid Russian-backed offensive

**ALBERT AJI
SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press**

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) —

Clashes intensified Thursday between Syrian troops and insurgents in central and northwestern Syria, part of what a top general called a "wide-ranging" offensive aided by Russian airstrikes and apparently aimed at clearing positions near government strongholds on the coast.

U.S. defense officials said as many as four of the 26 long-range cruise missiles that Russia said Wednesday it fired at Syria landed instead in Iran, but it was unclear if they caused any significant damage. Russia said all of its missiles fired from warships hit their targets. Russia's involvement in Syria, which began with airstrikes Sept. 30 and escalated Wednesday with cruise missiles, "raises serious concerns," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said after a meeting of the alliance's defense ministers in Brussels. Russia says its air campaign in Syria is aimed against militants of the Islamic State and al-Qaida-linked groups, but the West accuses it of intervening to support President Bashar against even moderate rebels in the civil war.

The Syrian government's

multipronged offensive began Wednesday, and state-run media said it seized several villages in central Syria, with fighting continuing Thursday. The government media and

enning the coastal region where Assad's family and the Alawite minority, an offshoot of Shiite Islam, are concentrated.

The Islamic State — also known as ISIS, ISIL or Daesh

tion groups in Syria.

Russia said its warplanes flew 22 sorties and carried out 11 airstrikes on IS training facilities in Hama and Raqqqa provinces.

The Russian Defense Min-



Syrian President Bashar Assad speaks during an interview with Iran's Khabar TV, in Damascus, Syria, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2015. Assad said in the interview aired Sunday the air campaign by Russia against "terrorists" in his country must succeed or the whole region will be destroyed. He also accused Western nations of fueling the refugee crisis.

(SANA via AP)

activists reported heavy fighting in Sahl al-Ghab, a vital plain bordering Assad's stronghold of Latakia on the Mediterranean. The plain also lies between Hama and Idlib, the northwestern provinces seized from government troops in September. Insurgents have been advancing there since summer, threat-

— has strongholds in Raqqqa and Aleppo provinces, while Syria's al-Qaida affiliate, the Nusra Front, has a strong presence in Idlib.

Gen. Ali Ayoub, the Syrian army's chief of staff, said Russia's airstrikes had weakened the Islamic State fighters and other insurgents so that his troops could keep up the initiative. "Today, the Syrian Arab armed forces began a wide-ranging attack with the aim of eliminating the terrorist groups and liberating the areas and towns that suffered from their scourge and crimes," Ayoub said in rare televised remarks. The government uses the term "terrorists" to refer to all armed opposi-

istry also said its aircraft destroyed firing positions in rural Hama, where fighting has raged, and struck militants' underground facilities in rural Latakia with concrete-piercing bombs. Syrian TV showed government troops loading and firing artillery as helicopters flew over rural Hama and Idlib. It also showed tanks and airstrikes. The state run SANA news agency said joint Syrian-Russian airstrikes hit 27 targets belonging to Nusra Front.

Heavy fighting was concentrated in the rural parts of Idlib, Hama and Latakia provinces — areas of operation for an array of insurgent groups that includes the Nusra Front. □

Several Russian cruise missiles land in Iran: US

ROBERT BURNS

**AP National Security Writer
WASHINGTON (AP)** —

As many as four of the 26 long-range cruise missiles that Russia said it fired at Syrian targets landed instead in Iran, U.S. defense officials said Thursday.

The officials said it's unclear whether the errant missiles, launched from Russian ships in the Caspian Sea, caused any significant damage in Iran. Both the Russian government and state-run Iranian media accused the United States of inaccurate or deliberately deceptive statements.

Three U.S. officials said four missiles went off course. The officials were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Russian government said Wednesday it launched 26 cruise missiles, hitting targets in north and northwestern Syrian provinces. It made no mention of any missiles going astray, suggesting that the operation was fully successful. The missiles' intended flight paths took them over Iran and Iraq.

On Thursday, the Russian Ministry of Defense employed a little sarcasm in its denial.

"However unpleasant and 'unexpected' it may be for our colleagues at the Pentagon and Langley (CIA's Virginia headquarters) about yesterday's attacks by high-accuracy weapons on the (Islamic State) infrastructure in Syria -- all the same, all rockets fired from ships found their targets," said a ministry spokesman, Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov. □

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NATO leaves door open for troops to remain in Afghanistan



U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter speaks during a media conference after a meeting of NATO defense ministers at NATO headquarters in Brussels on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.

(AP Photo/Virginia Mayo)

LOLITA C. BALDOR
DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Urged on by the United States, NATO is open to keeping more troops in Afghanistan than initially planned after 2016, but officials said Thursday the alliance is waiting for the Obama administration to announce its decision on a larger military pres-

ence there.

Defense Secretary Ash Carter said he discussed the issue with a number of NATO allies Thursday and asked them to consider abandoning their earlier plans to cut troop levels in Afghanistan to just a small presence at the end of next year.

"I have asked all of the NATO partners to remain

flexible and to consider the possibility of making adjustments to the plan, which is now 2 1/2 years old, for the presence in Afghanistan," Carter told reporters during a meeting of NATO defense ministers. "I was very pleased to hear ministers of defense from our NATO allies reaffirm their commitment, discussing not whether but how to

continue the mission in Afghanistan."

Carter's reference to the "2 1/2-year-old" plan, which had the U.S. leaving just 1,000 troops in Afghanistan after 2016, lent credence to suggestions that the Obama administration is likely to affirm military commanders' requests and leave several thousand troops there instead, because fighting between the Taliban and Afghans continues.

While several people within the administration back keeping a troop presence beyond 2016, Obama has not made a decision. And a decision is not expected to be announced imminently, said U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they

were not allowed to discuss administration thinking.

The top U.S. military commander in Afghanistan, Gen. John Campbell made that argument to Congress Thursday, saying that drawing the force down to 1,000 by the end of next year will limit coalition training and counterterrorism operations.

"If we came down to 1,000 — there is no counterterrorism structured force in those numbers," Campbell told the House Armed Services Committee.

He said he has recommended to President Barack Obama keeping more than 1,000 troops in the country beyond 2016. But Campbell would not provide a precise number. □

EU agrees to toughen migrant return program

RAF CASERT
LORNE COOK
Associated Press

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — The European Union on Thursday took measures to buttress its porous external borders and toughen up its migrant return program in an attempt to build a credible refugee policy that would continue to embrace those fleeing for their lives yet punish those seeking economic gain. Facing their toughest refugee emergency since World War II, the 28 EU nations committed to speed up and intensify the deportation of people who do not qualify for asylum,

including more special flights out and detention for those who might slip into illegal residence.

It all was to underscore one key message: Europe feels overwhelmed and needs to be far more rigorous in sending economic migrants back if it wants to find enough goodwill among its population to continue harboring true refugees.

"Increased return rates should act as a deterrent to irregular migration," the conclusions of the meeting said.

More than 500,000 people have arrived this year seeking sanctuary or jobs. But of

the people who fail to obtain asylum or residency in the 28-nation EU, less than 40 percent actually go back, and all agree that should change quickly.

"We need to see Europe upping its game," Britain's interior minister, Theresa May, said.

"If there is no return policy there is no basis for the refugee policy," said French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, adding agreements should be quickly made with many of the developing nations from where tens of thousands of economic migrants leave in desperation for a better life in Europe. □

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A man cycles past a signboard marking the upcoming 70th anniversary of the founding of North Korea's Workers' Party, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, in Pyongyang, North Korea. The country is in high gear with preparations for the anniversary on Oct. 10, 2015.

(AP Photo/Wong Maye-E)

North Korea gears up for lavish celebration

ERIC TALMADGE
Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — With the international media, foreign guests and ethnic Koreans from around the region descending on their capital, North Koreans are being mobilized en masse to put the finishing touches on one of the few things their country wants the whole world to see — a lavish celebration and military parade to mark the 70th anniversary of the nation's ruling party.

Masses of Pyongyang residents, many carrying bouquets of pink or red plastic flowers, gathered in public squares across the city Thursday to practice their roles in the grand show to be held on Saturday for the anniversary of the 1945 founding of the Workers' Party of Korea. The city has also undergone an extensive face-lift, with soldier-builders working around the clock to build high-rise apartments, pave roads and even put in bicycle

lanes. The spectacle promises to be the most elaborate since leader Kim Jong Un assumed power after the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, in late 2011.

Though officials have not publicly announced the schedule for Saturday's events, the day is expected to kick off with a major military parade and mass rally on Kim Il Sung Square in the morning and climax with another mass gathering for a torchlight parade and concert to be held on a special stage set up on the nearby Taedong River, which runs through the capital.

It's not known if Kim himself will speak publicly at any of the day's events, though he did give reporters a surprise, close-up photo opportunity two years ago when the country held a similarly elaborate celebration for the 60th anniversary of the armistice that ended the 1950-53 Korean War.

To make sure everyone taking part in the spectacle knows their part, students,

work units and other groups have filled public plazas for weeks to hone their marching, flag-waving and slogan-shouting skills. On Thursday, crowds of students waving red flags and women in brightly colored traditional clothing could be seen in the area around the square. North Korean flags lined the streets.

Open source satellite imagery suggests military units are practicing on a mock-up of the square at an airstrip farther away from prying eyes. The U.S.-Korea Institute at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies said that images taken Tuesday show hundreds of tents, trucks and armored vehicles at the site, and troops assembled in formation.

"We are very proud of the 70th anniversary of the foundation of our party, it's an honor for us, and with this anniversary we will demonstrate our invincible single-hearted unity," said Chang Yong Ho, a student who will be taking part. □

China anxious over alleged US plan to challenge island claim

C. BODEEN

Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Beijing expressed "serious concern" Thursday about a reported U.S. plan to challenge China's South China Sea territorial claims by sailing a Navy ship near one of its newly built artificial islands.

The U.S. newspaper Navy Times reported on Wednesday that the Navy may soon receive approval for the mission to sail inside the 12-nautical mile (21-kilometer) territorial limit surrounding one of the man-made structures.

That would drive home Washington's stance that the artificial islands do not constitute sovereign territory and build a legal case under international law for the U.S. position, the newspaper said.

Five other governments also claim the region in part or in total. The U.S. doesn't take a formal position on sovereignty but insists on freedom of navigation in the vital sea lanes and airspace above.

Asked about the report at a daily briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said China has long made clear its position on the South China Sea, which Beijing claims virtually in its entirety, along with its islands, reefs and atolls.

"I have not noticed the latest report you have mentioned. However, having heard what you said, we express serious concern about it," Hua said.

China and the U.S. have discussed the issue on numerous occasions, including during President Xi Jinping's state visit to Washington last month, Hua said. "We hope the U.S. can look upon the current situation of the South China Sea from an objective and fair perspective and play a constructive role together with China in keeping the peace and stability in the South China Sea," Hua said.

The Navy Times report said rumors have been circulating since May about plans to send a ship through China's claimed territorial waters. It cited three Pentagon officials speaking on background as saying that Navy officials now believe "approval of the mission is imminent."

It's not clear how China might respond to such an action, although Beijing issued a formal protest over an incident in May in which a Chinese navy dispatcher demanded eight times that a U.S. Navy P8-A Poseidon surveillance aircraft leave the area as it flew over Fiery Cross Reef, where China has conducted extensive reclamation work.

The U.S. crew responded that they were flying through international airspace.

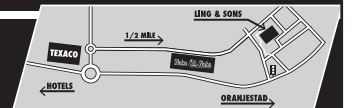
The U.S. and its allies, including the Philippines, have repeatedly called on China to stop the massive island construction, saying it has increased tensions in an increasingly militarized area and threatened regional stability. They say the project, which includes the construction of buildings, ports and airstrips, violates a 2002 regional pact signed by Beijing which urges rival claimants not to undertake new construction or take any step that would worsen tensions. □

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Latin America rolls out red carpet for once-scorned IMF

J. GOODMAN
Associated Press

LIMA, Peru (AP) — The last time the IMF held its annual meetings in Latin America, Ernesto “Che” Guevara was trying to spread Cuba’s revolution throughout the hemisphere and much of the region was under the thumb of repressive dictatorships.

But as policy makers from around the world began arriving in Peru’s capital Thursday, the ideological battles of the past appear to be fading.

In the five decades since their last annual meeting in the region, in Rio de Janeiro in 1967, the IMF and World Bank have loosened up on policy prescriptions that forced austerity on much of the hemisphere. And many governments, even some leftist ones like Bolivia and Ecuador that are hostile in rhetoric to the so-called Washington consensus, are pursuing relatively conventional economic policies that have dramatically improved the lives of the region’s people. “It’s not the old Latin America; it’s not the old IMF either,” Christine Lagarde, the fund’s managing director, told journalists Thursday. “The relationship is one of cooperation and partnership.”

But the newfound openness could soon be tested if the IMF is called in to pick up the pieces left by crashing commodities prices.



Sean Penn, right, listens to World Bank President Jim Yong Kim during a forum with young entrepreneurs in Lima, Peru, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015. Penn is on hand to participate in an event aimed at young business people during the IMF and World Bank annual meetings.

(AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

William R. Rhodes, a former senior vice chairman of Citigroup who represented banks in negotiations over the debts of several then-delinquent governments in the 1980s, said no country in the region wants to seek the IMF’s assistance.

“The saga of Argentina is still fresh in everyone’s heads,” he said, referring to the blame heaped on the IMF for its role in that country’s 2001 debt default, which still haunts South America’s second-largest economy. Still, Rhodes said, some governments may have no choice, given the depth of the shock from the slow-

down in China, which has depressed prices for Latin America’s copper, oil and iron ore while fueling a stampede of foreign investment out of emerging markets. Pulled down by deep recessions in Brazil and Venezuela, the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean are expected to contract 0.3 percent this year, threatening to push many members of the region’s new middle classes back into poverty.

“All of these countries really thrived on the commodity boom, so it’s going to take time to work out,” said Rhodes, who lived in

Venezuela for more than a decade and now heads a consulting firm bearing his name. “If they don’t manage it well, it could get very tough because we’re entering a period of slow global growth.”

Signs of an impending crisis may already be emerging. In Brazil, the region’s largest economy, the currency recently plunged to a record low and unemployment jumped to a five-year peak, adding to political tensions behind mass street protests calling for President Dilma Rousseff’s resignation. Venezuela’s economy is forecast to shrink a whopping

10 percent this year as it copes with widespread shortages and the world’s highest inflation, around 200 percent.

For now, the IMF is resisting any suggestion that it will be forced to clean up.

In the past 15 years, most Latin American governments have taken advantage of the bonanza to stockpile foreign currency reserves and lift domestic savings. Unlike the “Lost Decade” of the 1980s, when almost every nation in the hemisphere turned to the IMF to cope with the fallout from a borrowing binge fueled by high oil prices, today only three countries in the Western Hemisphere — Honduras, Jamaica and Grenada — depend on the IMF for financial assistance.

“We have a tough growth scenario,” said Alejandro Werner, a former Mexican finance official who oversees the IMF’s relations with Latin America. “But we’re having a much less tougher financial environment than what we used to have in the past.”

Werner said the IMF has also benefited from a more stable relationship, taking lessons learned from governments in Latin America, such as Chile’s rainy day fund made up of windfall copper revenues or Mexico’s and Brazil’s direct cash transfers to the poor, and applying them in other parts of the world. □



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Haiti voters grapple with packed field for presidency

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

(AP) — Cities and towns across Haiti are plastered with colorful campaign ads, leaving voters strug-

Germith Merzilus said with an exasperated sigh as a group of partisans walked by in matching T-shirts tout-

ing a campaign. This troubled, poor Caribbean nation has at times

reviewed the count and eliminated him from the race.

Other major candidates include an ex-senator who has been Martelly's most vocal critic, a Port-au-

share of the horde of Haitian politicians holding rallies to whip up enthusiasm, sometimes with traditional bands of drums, horns and leather tambourines.

Because elections were postponed amid political gridlock during Martelly's nearly five-year tenure, this month's first-round presidential contest is taking place on the same day as legislative runoff elections arising from a messy vote in August that featured more than 1,500 candidates and nearly 130 parties.

Officials will also hold redo elections in 25 districts where violence, ballot stuffing and voter intimidation plagued voting two months ago. The almost certain presidential runoff Dec. 27 will also see more legislative contests as well as voting for all local offices.

Vijonet Demero, secretary-general of Haiti's frequently criticized Provisional Electoral Council, predicts the Oct. 25 voting will be far better organized than the initial parliamentary round two months ago, the results of which were only recently issued.

"We have learned from the mistakes of August 9th and we've been busy making all the necessary administrative changes," Demero said at the well-guarded headquarters of the council overseeing the \$69 million election process, with more than \$30 million provided by the U.S. A major change, he said, will be greatly limiting the number of political party representatives allowed to observe at polling stations in a bid to avoid voter intimidation.

Political analyst Fritz Dorvilier, a sociologist at the State University of Haiti, is skeptical. □

Declassified docs reveal Pinochet ordered hit in US

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) —

Newly declassified U.S. intelligence documents that came to light Thursday reveal that Gen. Augusto Pinochet directly ordered the 1976 assassination of a Chilean diplomat in Washington.

Orlando Letelier, a former defense and foreign minister, was killed by a car bomb along with American Ronni Moffitt.

Letelier had been a top official under Marxist President Salvador Allende, who was ousted by the Pinochet-led coup in 1973. Letelier was tortured and jailed, then later fled to the United States.

"We hope that studying these documents will shine a light" on both Pinochet's role in the killing and a judicial system that never tried the dictator for the crime, Letelier's son, Sen. Juan Pablo Letelier, told reporters Thursday. Letelier said he had received copies of the documents at the behest of President Michelle Bachelet. Bachelet received them from U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who was in Chile on Monday for an oceans conference.

The documents, which include State Department cables summarizing a series of informant reports from the years before 1978, were also posted Thursday by the National Security Archive, a non-profit organization based in Washington.

One document includes an assertion by the former head of Chile's intelligence agency, Manuel Contreras, that "he authorized the assassination of Letelier" on "direct orders from Pinochet." □



A billboard promoting an upcoming presidential debate towers over a tap-tap station in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015. In the first round of Haiti's presidential vote on Oct. 25, voters will choose from a wide field of 54 candidates. (AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery)

gling to differentiate a swarm of candidates who grin from posters, banners and billboards slapped on nearly everything that doesn't move and a few that do.

Practically every public office is up for grabs in this year's unprecedented three-round balloting that is picking the next president, two-thirds of the Senate, the entire 119-member Chamber of Deputies and all local offices. Even by Haiti's rough-and-tumble standards, the parade of office-seekers and unpredictability of the elections is dizzying for many.

"There are so many candidates it's impossible to focus on it all and see if a few might actually have good ideas. Right now, this whole thing really gives me a headache," secretary

been described as nearly ungovernable, yet a lot of people are lining up to try. The first round of Haiti's presidential vote on Oct. 25 features no less than 54 candidates — a fractured field that makes the 19 contenders in the election five years ago look almost reasonable.

They are seeking to succeed President Michel Martelly, who is barred by the constitution from serving a consecutive term.

The apparent front-runner is Jude Celestin, a former state construction chief who was the government-backed presidential candidate in 2010. Disputed preliminary results then showed Celestin edging out Martelly for a spot in the runoff ballot, but under international pressure Haiti's electoral authorities

Prince lawyer and public notary, a former police chief, and the leader of the political movement founded by former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a once dominant but increasingly divided party that was barred from the last election.

Spoiler candidates could include an influential sitting senator and a businessman who has made a Haitian fortune building a chain of "borlettes," gaudily painted outlets that play on New York State Lottery numbers.

With so many candidates, no one is likely to get more than 50 percent of the vote Oct. 25, meaning the two leading vote getters will face each other in a runoff Dec. 27.

The jam-packed presidential field is just a small



At The Indulge Aruba Festival: La Vista Showcases an Impressive Booth with Local Flavors



PALM BEACH - During the weekend, the culinary team of the Aruba Marriott was present at the Indulge Culinary Expo showcasing La Vista's diverse flavors

and nightly buffet offerings. The booth of La Vista was a crowd favorite with a striking setup and tantalizing dishes for tasting which ensured continuous

flow of visitors to the booth. Aruba Marriott's Executive Sous Chef Miguel Garcia together with his culinary team prepared mouthwatering tuna ceviche which was a total hit and cabrito stoba (Goat stew) which was surely the local highlight of the night. Both had fantastic presentations and



of course exquisite taste. The team of the Aruba Marriott would like to thank the attendees for visiting La Vista's booth and look forward to seeing them again soon at La Vista to indulge in the endless buffet flavors

and breathtaking views. La Vista is located at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino and can be contacted by calling 520-6601. (Photos courtesy of Kenneth Theysen). □





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Utilities Aruba announces Aruba's Sustainable Energy Week



ORANJESTAD - Utilities Aruba N.V., together with WEB Aruba N.V. and NV ELMAR are proud to announce Aruba's Sustainable Energy Week to take place from October 26th to October 31st later this month. The four events will attract participation of local and international dig-

nitaries, experts and legislators. Director of Utilities Aruba NV, Franklin Hoeverstz, together with Aruba's Prime Minister, Mike Eman and Minister of Economic Affairs, Communication, Energy and Environment, Mike de Meza, announced the Aruba Learning Event (October 26th and 27th),



Green Aruba VI (October 27th and 28th), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean's (ECLAC) official an-

nual summit on the topic of Energy Efficiency (October 29th and 30th), and the official annual assembly of the Commission for Mining and Energy of the Latin American Parliament (October 30th and 31st).

The Aruba Learning Event, ECLAC meetings and those of Parlatino are closed for the general public however Green Aruba VI is open for registration and participation for the public at large, and moreover Green Aruba VI will bring the organizers and topics of all the events together on one stage with the central theme of this year "Share Sustainability".

The theme will target various subtopics, however all directed towards sharing, and the exchange

of, knowledge, information and best practices in the sustainable energy portfolio and the implementation, technological advancements and innovation thereof. The core objective is to tackle the transitional steps toward energy deriving from renewable sources and resources, using clean and environmentally responsible methods. The topics will focus on the island (utility) model, and particularly on islands such as Aruba that belong to a group as recognized by the United Nations as "Small Island Developing States" or SIDS. Green Aruba will be hosted this year at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino on October 27th and 28th. □



Waka Waka Makes an Impression at Indulge Aruba Festival



PALM BEACH – Waka Waka restaurant's booth at the inaugural Indulge Aruba Festival was a big hit among festival-goers looking to sample the island's many unique culinary offerings. Held last weekend on the event lawn at the Ritz Carlton, Aruba, the festival was a total food and wine celebration featuring tastings from some of the island's top Chefs, specialty restaurants, and premier wine and spirit vendors. More than twenty of the island's best known restaurants participated. Waka Waka showcased a taste of its unique cuisine, with samples of Coconut Shrimps with Banana Mayo, Patacon con Queso (fried smashed plantain with cheese), Cabrito Stoba (goat stew), Waka Waka Ceviche, Wild BBQ Ribs Sliders and Nacho

Mama. Guests surely enjoyed every last bite of what Waka Waka served up at the Indulge Aruba Festival. □



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PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a large group of loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is

presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Paul and Mrs. Margaret Bodo from New Jersey, Mr. William and Mrs. Vendetter

Boddie from Virginia, and Mr. Tom and Mrs. Elaine Brody and their son Andrew Brody from New York. All the honorees are loyal members of the Divi Phoenix and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the

weather, the beaches, the restaurants, the Casinos, and just about everything else! They say Aruba feels like a second home where the people are like family to them, and the Divi Phoenix is truly their 'home-

away-from-home.' The certificates were presented by Mrs. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Avril and Danny from the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort. Congratulations! □



United States' Dustin Johnson, right, lines up his putt as teammate Jordan Spieth looks on during their four ball match at the Presidents Cup golf tournament at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea, in Incheon, South Korea, Friday, Oct. 9, 2015.

Associated Press

Americans jump out to another lead in Presidents Cup

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer
INCHEON, South Korea
(AP) — The Presidents Cup wasn't an hour old when Nick Price looked at the scoreboard and had that sinking feeling. It was filled with American red. And there wasn't much Price or the International team could do about it Thursday in an opening session that ended just like so many others in this one-sided affair. Phil Mickelson and Zach Johnson capped off a performance that was as businesslike as their handshakes, and the Americans had a 4-1 lead after four-somes in which they never trailed in any match except the one they lost. "A tough day for us," Price said. "Having said that, we are only five points into 30. We still have another 25 points left out there."

Continued on page 18

PRICE NOT RIGHT

Rangers bats get to Blue Jays ace in 5-3 win

Toronto Blue Jays' David Price reacts after hitting the Texas Rangers' lead-off batter with a pitch at the top of the fifth inning of baseball Game 1 of the American League Division Series in Toronto on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.
Associated Press
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Presidents Cup

Continued from page 17

So we've got a long way to go, and that's that I told my team. Just to keep their chins up and do the best they can tomorrow."

The International team was adamant that the number of matches be reduced — it was lowered from 34 to 30 — to keep it a close contest. After one day, maybe having one less match on Thursday helped.

It could have been worse. The Americans, who have lost the Presidents Cup only one time since it began in 1994 and are going for their sixth straight victory, had a lead after the opening session for the fifth straight time. The margin was their largest since a four-point lead in 2007 at Royal Montreal.

That makes the five matches of fourballs on Friday even more critical.

U.S. captain Jay Haas put Jordan Spieth and Dustin Johnson in the first match, followed by Rickie Fowler and Jimmy Walker.

"He's going for the kill," Price said. "If we get momentum going, it can change things."

All the momentum belonged to the Americans on Thursday.

Bubba Watson and J.B. Holmes ran off four straight birdies early in their match against Adam Scott and Hideki Matsuyama, and that set the tone. They wound up winning a tight match when Scott and Matsuyama missed key putts and ended it on the 16th hole.

"That was my whole goal," Watson said. "Get out there fast, change the

color so the other guys see that and it sparks them going forward."

Watson and Holmes didn't deliver the first point. That came from Fowler and Walker, who picked up their first win as a team. They halved three matches at the Ryder Cup last year, and on Thursday they had the shortest match at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea, 5 and 4, over India's Anirban Lahiri and Thailand's Thongchai Jaidee.

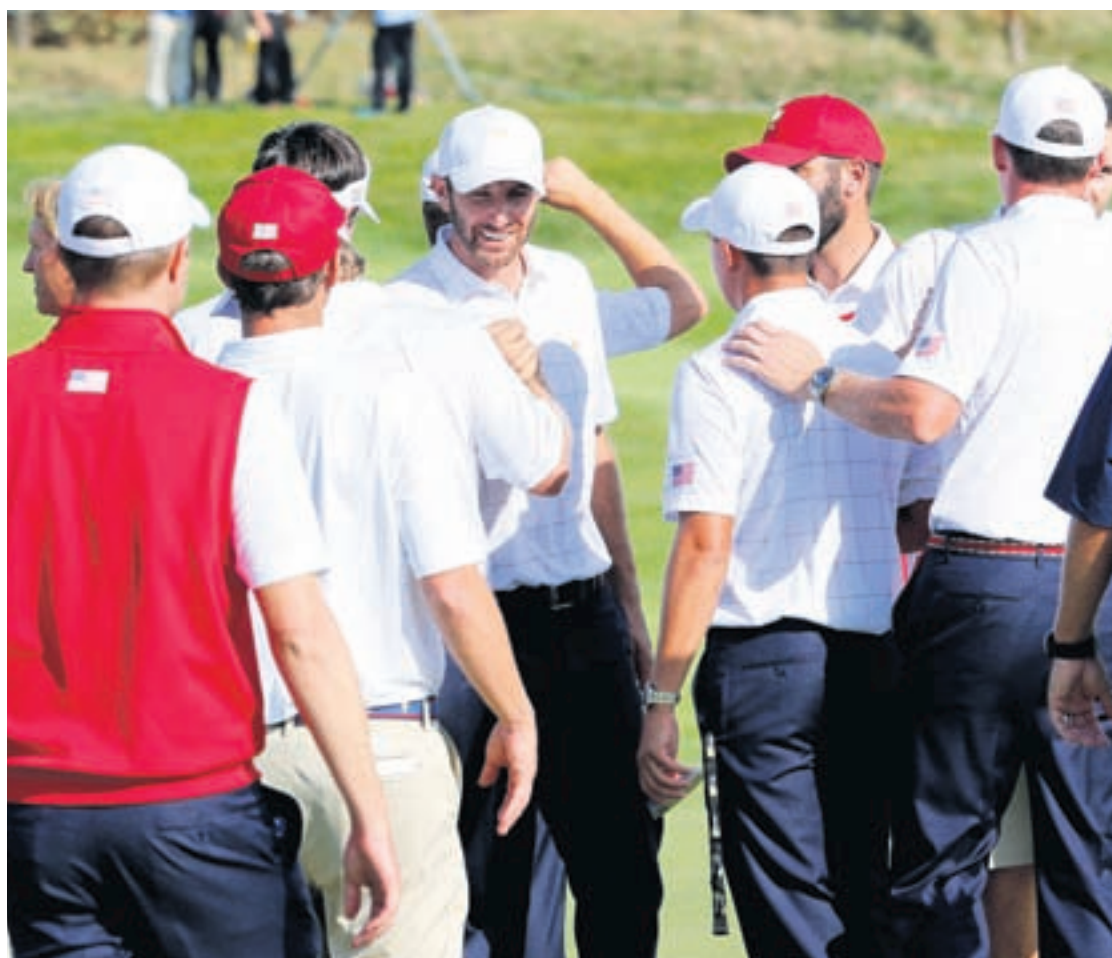
The lone International victory came from Louis Oosthuizen and Branden Grace of South Africa, who took advantage of some sloppy play by Matt Kuchar and Patrick Reed in a 3-and-2 victory. Kuchar hit a tee shot into the water on No. 11, and he hit a wedge so far on No. 14 that it didn't even reach the creek.

Grace went 0-4 in his Presidents Cup debut two years ago, and the South Africans gave the International team at least some hope.

"I know we're behind," Grace said, glancing at a scoreboard behind him. "But one point is better than none." The Americans got help from top to bottom. Spieth, coming off a year of two majors, the FedEx Cup and the No. 1 ranking, and Dustin Johnson made for a formidable duo. They set the tone early when Spieth holed a 20-foot birdie putt on No. 2, and Johnson stepped up on the next hole and hammered a tee shot nearly 350 yards.

They halved that hole, but a message was sent.

"Me hitting bomb drives,



U.S. team player's celebrate on the 18th green after they lead the International team 4-1 following the first day of matches at the Presidents Cup golf tournament at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea, in Incheon, South Korea, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.

Associated Press

Jordan holing putts," Johnson said. "That's what you want to get in their heads." Johnson had a few wild drives, too, but they restored their cushion early on the back nine and coasted to a 4-and-3 victory.

Mickelson had to rely on a captain's pick for the first time since the inaugural Presidents Cup in 1994. Players wanted him on the team for his experience and enthusiasm, and the Hall of Famer showed he was more than capable with a club in his hand. Mickelson holed a bunker shot on the par-3 13th to go 2 up, and he came up big with a key drive on the 18th with water down the

right side.

Jason Day, coming off a five-win season that included his first major, did his part to extend the match. Day holed a 40-foot birdie putt on the 17th hole to keep alive hopes of at least earning a half-point. But on the closing par 5, Mickelson's big drive set up nothing more than a 7-iron for Zach Johnson, and he put it 10 feet below the hole. Day's eagle putt from about 18 feet slid by on the

left, and he and fellow Aussie Steven Bowditch conceded the eagle to Mickelson for a 2-up U.S. win.

"It's tough when you go out there and you see all the red and we're down," Price said. "I'm certainly not despondent about the whole thing. I think this team is going to bounce back a lot quicker than maybe any of the other teams we've had. I don't know, we'll have to wait and see." □



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NHL Capsules

Rangers spoil Blackhawks party with 3-2 win

CHICAGO (AP) — Oscar Lindberg, Kevin Klein and Derek Stepan scored in the first period, and the New York Rangers ruined Chicago's Stanley Cup party with a 3-2 victory over the Blackhawks on Wednesday on the first night of the NHL season.

J.T. Miller had two assists and Henrik Lundqvist made 32 saves for New York. Cheered on by a sellout crowd of 22,104, with many dressed in their usual red jerseys, the Blackhawks raised the banner for the franchise's sixth NHL title during a colorful pregame ceremony. Fluorescent balls bounced around the seats and LED wristbands for the fans provided a synchronized lightshow during player introductions and highlight presentations. All-Star winger Patrick Kane, the subject of a sexual assault investigation in western New York, heard loud cheers when he skated onto the ice for the Cup celebration. Kane hasn't



New York Rangers center Oscar Lindberg, left, shoots against Chicago Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford during the first period of an NHL hockey game Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015, in Chicago.

Associated Press

been charged.

Artemi Panarin scored in his first NHL game for Chicago, which is trying to become the first team to successfully defend the title since Detroit in 1997-98. Teuvo Teravainen also scored, and Corey Crawford made 24 saves.

CANADIENS 3, MAPLE LEAFS 1

TORONTO (AP) — Carey

Price made 36 saves and Montreal beat Toronto, spoiling Mike Babcock's coaching debut with the Maple Leafs.

Canadiens captain Max Pacioretty scored on Montreal's first shot against Jonathan Bernier a few minutes in for the first goal of the NHL season. Alex Galchenyuk broke a tie midway through the third pe-

riod, and Pacioretty added an empty-netter.

James van Riemsdyk had a power-play goal for Toronto early in the second period.

Babcock made the first coach's challenge in NHL history and was successful in overturning a goal. He challenged Jeff Petry's apparent goal in the second period, arguing that Tomas Plekanec interfered with Bernier.

SHARKS 5, KINGS 1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Captain Joe Pavelski had a goal and two assists, and Joonas Donskoi scored in his NHL debut for San Jose. Joe Thornton and Brent Burns had a goal and an assist apiece, and Tomas Hertl also scored as the Sharks thoroughly dominated their California rivals in coach Peter DeBoer's successful debut.

Pavelski was outstanding in his first game since being named the permanent captain of the Sharks, who won a season opener at

Staples Center for the second straight year.

Martin Jones made 19 saves in his own debut for the Sharks against his former team, stopping everything after the Kings' first shot. Nick Shore scored 1:49 into the first period.

CANUCKS 5, FLAMES 1

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Daniel Sedin had a goal and two assists to lead Vancouver.

Jannik Hansen, Brandon Sutter, Alex Burrows and Henrik Sedin also scored for the Canucks in a rematch of last April's Western Conference quarterfinals. The Flames won that series in six games to advance to the second round, where they lost in five to Anaheim.

Vancouver defenseman Ben Hutton recorded his first point in his NHL debut with an assist on Hansen's goal. Canucks goalie Ryan Miller made 29 saves.

Jiri Hudler scored for Calgary and Karri Ramo finished with 39 saves. □

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Chirinos 2-run homer leads Rangers over Blue Jays 5-3

By IAN HARRISON
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) -- A big day by the bottom of Texas' batting order helped the Rangers overcome an injury to slugger Adrian Beltre in the start of their postseason run.

Robinson Chirinos hit a two-run homer against David Price, Rougned Odor added a solo shot and the Rangers beat the Blue Jays 5-3 Thursday in their AL Division Series opener as postseason baseball returned to Toronto for the first time in 22 years. "It means a lot to the team to come to Toronto and win that first game against a great pitcher," Chirinos said. Both starting third baseman left with injuries: Beltre came in the third with a strained muscle in his lower back and Toronto's Josh Donaldson in the fifth after he was kneed in the head while sliding in an attempt to break up a double play. Rangers manager Jeff Banister said he wasn't sure whether Beltre would be available for Game 2 on Friday. In an effort to remain in the series, Beltre had a cortisone shot. "Obviously we want Adrian in there," Banister said. "He's the heart and soul of this ballclub."

After going for tests at a hospital, Beltre returned to the clubhouse about an hour after the game and walked gingerly. An MRI confirmed Beltre had a strained back but no structural damage, general manager Jon Daniels said. "We haven't ruled him out of tomorrow's game,"



Texas Rangers' Delino DeShields, center, scores past Toronto Blue Jays catcher Russell Martin during the third inning of Game 1 of the American League Division Series in Toronto on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.

Associated Press

Daniels said.

Texas will have Joey Gallo and Ed Lucas travel from its Arizona Fall League team in case Beltre needs to be removed from the roster, a decision that also would rule Beltre out of the AL Championship Series. Blue Jays manager John Gibbons said Donaldson felt light-headed while playing defense in the top of the fifth, forcing the AL MVP candidate to come out of the game.

"They check for concussions, and apparently he passed all the tests. So that's good news," Gibbons said.

Yovani Gallardo (1-0) allowed two runs and four hits in five innings.

"That's what we really needed from him," Banister said. "I think he did a great job."

Gallardo is 4-0 with a 1.78 ERA in four career starts against Toronto.

"We got in some good hitter's counts and he wouldn't give in," Blue Jays catcher Russell Martin said. "He didn't make those mistakes that we capitalize on." Keone Kela, Jake Diekman and Sam Dyson finished, with Dyson getting a save.

Pitching on 11 days' rest,

Price (0-1) allowed five runs and five hits in seven innings. He dropped to 1-6 with a 4.79 ERA in 11 postseason games, and is 0-6 in six playoff starts.

"I expect to have better results," a subdued Price said. Gibbons said Price was the victim of timely hits by the Rangers.

"He wasn't getting hit around. It was just a couple of key hits at some key times that made the difference," Gibbons said.

Blue Jays slugger Jose Bautista hit a solo homer in the sixth, then left with a sore right hamstring after popping out in the eighth

and was replaced in right by Dalton Pompey. The Blue Jays said Bautista is expected to play Friday.

Delino DeShields and Beltre hit RBI singles to give Texas a 2-0 lead in the third. Beltre, injured when sliding into second base as Prince Fielder hit into an inning-ending double play in the first, had difficulty running and was replaced by rookie Haner Albertoin the bottom of third.

Edwin Encarnacion's run-scoring infield single cut the deficit in half in the fourth - the first run Toronto scored off Gallardo in three meetings this season. □

MLB Roundup

Arrieta, Cubs silence Pirates 4-0 to win NL wild-card game



Chicago Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo, (44), holds Chicago Cubs starting pitcher Jake Arrieta as shortstop Starlin Castro (13) joins in the celebration after they defeated the Pittsburgh Pirates in the National League wild card baseball game 4-0, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015, in Pittsburgh.

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Chicago's Jake Arrieta pitched a shutout to steer the Cubs to their first win in a playoff game for 12 years, beating Pittsburgh 4-0 on Wednesday in the National League wild-card game.

Arrieta struck out 11 without a walk and was also at the heart of an altercation after being hit by a pitch. His efforts propelled the Cubs to an NL Division Series against St. Louis starting on Friday.

"I'm exhausted. I haven't felt this way all year," said Arrieta, who led the majors with 22 wins. "This atmosphere, the energy was unbelievable. Tried to use it to the best of my ability. They were loud, they were really loud."

Dexter Fowler homered and scored three times for the Cubs and rookie Kyle Schwarber added a towering two-run homer as Chicago raced to an early lead and let Arrieta do the rest.

"Jake told me when we talked last night, he said, 'You give me a few runs, I'm good,'" Fowler said. "And I said, 'All right, bro, we'll see what we can do.'"

The largest crowd ever at

PNC Park failed to rattle Arrieta or one of baseball's youngest teams, one that looked right at home while snapping a nine-game playoff losing streak that dated to the 2003 NL Championship Series.

"You don't think that these guys are 21, 23 years old, because they don't play like it," Arrieta said. "They have elevated their play to a level that's beyond their years, and it's one of the big reasons we're here." Pittsburgh was knocked out after an impressive 98 victories this year, second only to division rival St. Louis, whose dominance forced the Pirates into the sudden-death wild-card game.

The Pirates have failed to score in both their wild-card games over the past two years, having been beaten by ultimate World Series winner San Francisco in 2014.

"Two years in a row we've drawn a tough bull," manager Clint Hurdle said.

The bearded Arrieta, still unbeaten since July 25, stretched his remarkable second half of the regular season — in which he post-

ed an 0.75 ERA — into the opening round of the playoffs. His complete-game shutout was the first for the Cubs in the playoffs since Claude Passeau in the 1945 World Series.

Arrieta's night was not all plain-sailing, having found himself in a bases-loaded jam in the sixth, and getting involved in an altercation in the seventh after being hit by a Tony Watson pitch. The benches and bullpens cleared when Watson was issued a warning, leading to little more than a few heated exchanges along the first base line.

Pirates utility player Sean Rodriguez was ejected and proceeded to give an unsuspecting water cooler a series of one-two combinations, eventually sending it tumbling to the ground.

"It's two teams battling, grinding it out, supporting their own guys, and sometimes those things happen," Arrieta said. "But we moved past it, and after that point it was just baseball as usual."

Chicago took a 1-0 lead two batters into the game when Fowler led off with a single, stole second and scored on a single to left by Schwarber.

The two hooked up again in the third. Fowler singled with one out and Schwarber turned a slider from starter Gerritt Cole into a massive two-run shot that appeared destined for the downtown Pittsburgh skyline before disappearing over the stands in right field.

Arrieta retired 10 straight

at one point, his only real wobble coming in the sixth as Pittsburgh loaded the bases with one out.

Starling Marte's sharp grounder, however, rolled right to Addison Russell at shortstop. A toss to second and a throw to first completed the double play and ended the inning. □

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U.S. men embrace Mexico soccer rivalry heading to Rose Bowl

GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

IRVINE, Calif. (AP) — Clint Dempsey has been immersed in the U.S. soccer rivalry with Mexico pretty much from the moment he understood what the international game means to both nations.

"I grew up in Texas, and I played with a lot of kids from Mexico that went to my high school, and we were always talking trash," Dempsey said. "It's just that competitive rivalry, being so close in proximity to Mexico. It's just exciting to have big games like that and want to win so bad. I think both countries want to be able to flex their muscles, and want to be able to have bragging rights."

Dempsey and his U.S. teammates were already anticipating the next chapter in this lively rivalry when they went through a workout Thursday under picturesque California sunshine on the UC Irvine campus.

The slumping Americans face Mexico on Saturday at the sold-out Rose Bowl in a one-game playoff for a spot in the 2017 Confederations Cup in Russia, a prelude to the 2018 World Cup. While Mexico had a raucous summer that included its Gold Cup triumph and the firing of

coach Miguel Herrera, the U.S. team reaches Pasadena in need of a landmark victory. Their worst Gold Cup finish in 15 years is just part of an unimpressive year that has Landon Donovan suggesting coach Jurgen Klinsmann should be fired if the Americans don't beat Mexico on Saturday. The Americans don't appear to see it as a make-or-break moment for a team that does not start World Cup qualifying until next month. They seem more excited about the chance to play a big-time game with real stakes against their closest rivals in front of a frenzied, bipartisan Southern California crowd. "Just the tension that's involved in it, the passion from both sets of supporters, from the players, it just goes so far back," U.S. striker Jozy Altidore said. "The game means that much more each time it's played. I think this will be one of the biggest ones to date."

Nobody in either jersey has forgotten that these teams met on the same Rose Bowl turf four years ago in the Gold Cup final, and that Mexico rallied from an early two-goal deficit for a riotous 4-2 victory. That loss led to the departure of U.S. coach Bob Bradley, and the Americans are 3-0-3



In this April 1, 2014 file photo, U.S. Men's National Team captain Clint Dempsey runs drills during practice in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press

against Mexico since Klinsmann's tenure began.

The Americans are underdogs heading into this playoff game, with Mexico fielding a strong lineup despite several injury problems and an interim coaching staff. Giovanni Dos Santos, the LA Galaxy star who scored Mexico's fourth goal in the

2011 Gold Cup final, has been ruled out.

Altidore sees an opportunity for the U.S. team to right itself after a year of unimpressive results. The veteran striker hopes he's a part of it.

"I'm excited, because I never really get these opportunities with the na-

tional team," said Altidore, who hurt his hamstring during the 2011 Gold Cup and missed the final. "Always something happens to me, or I get injured or something. So knock on wood I'm OK, and I get the chance if the coach gives it to me on Saturday to take part in a special event."

The Confederations Cup is a valuable World Cup prelude for the eight teams that earn a berth. Teams from every international confederation get a trial run through the stadiums and facilities for the 2018 World Cup — and for the U.S. or Mexico, the tournament provides a rare opportunity to compete against the top teams from Europe and South America with real stakes.

But first, the U.S. and Mexico will add another game to the local rivalry.

"I've always been very proud to represent the U.S., so any time you can put on the jersey and play in a big game, it's a dream come true," said Dempsey, who scored seven of the Americans' 12 goals in the Gold Cup. "It's what you dreamed about as a little kid: playing in games like this in a packed stadium, representing your country in important games." □

Djokovic tops Zhang to improve to 26-0 at China Open

BEIJING (AP) — Novak Djokovic matched Jimmy Connors for the second-longest unbeaten record at an ATP Tour event by beating Chinese wild card Zhang Ze 6-2, 6-1 on Thursday to improve to 26-0 at the China Open.

Djokovic has won five titles at the China Open in the past six years, excluding 2011, when he didn't play the tournament.

Djokovic matched Connors' 26-0 record at the ATP event in Birmingham, Alabama, from 1974-1980, and now only trails Rafael Nadal's 31-0 start at the French Open from 2005-2009.

The top-ranked Serbian player said the conditions



Novak Djokovic of Serbia watches his shot as he plays against Zhang Ze of China during their men's singles match of the China Open tennis tournament at the National Tennis Stadium in Beijing, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.

Associated Press

in Beijing simply suited his game well.

"I feel very pleasant play-

ing on the center court," he said. "I guess as I keep coming back each year

with that positive record, obviously gives me more confidence knowing that I played so well in the past on this court."

On the women's side, the two U.S. Open finalists from Italy — Flavia Pennetta and Roberta Vinci — both lost in the third round.

Pennetta, the U.S. Open champion, lost to Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, while Vinci was beaten by American qualifier Bethanie Mattek-Sands 6-1, 3-6, 6-2.

Following her triumph in New York, Pennetta announced that she would retire at the end of the season — a decision she reaffirmed on Thursday. She has one more tournament scheduled next week

in Tianjin, China, and could still qualify for the WTA Finals in Singapore, though her loss to Pavlyuchenkova dented her chances.

"There is nothing going to change if I go to Singapore or not. My career is going to be over anyway," she said. "Of course, is going to be nice to go to Singapore. If I make it, it's OK. If I don't, I go on vacation."

Pennetta left the door open a crack ever so slightly for a possible return next year to play at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

"At the moment I don't have any idea to change my mind," she said. "I cannot tell you how I'm going to feel in February, January. If I feel want to play, if I want to play, I play." □

Greek town glimpses mass transit future: driverless buses

DEREK GATOPOULOS

Associated Press

TRIKALA, Greece (AP) —

There'll be no arguing with the driver on this bus: the rides are free and there's no driver anyway.

Trikala, a rural town in northern Greece, has been chosen to test a driverless bus in real traffic conditions for the first time, part of a European project to revolutionize mass transport and wean its cities off oil dependency over the next 30 years.

Trials of the French-built CityMobil2 buses started last week and will last through late February.

Over the past year, CityMobil2 has been tried out near its base in La Rochelle in western France, on a campus in Lausanne, Switzerland, and near Helsinki, Finland, all in controlled conditions that produced no accidents.

But in Greece, a country of narrow, winding, hilly streets, stray dogs, bicycle riders and impatient drivers, the buses are up against real traffic. The Greek government had to amend its laws to allow the testing and the city had to build a dedicated bus lane that deprived residents of downtown parking spaces. The robot buses don't look like science fiction vehicles — more like golf cart meets ice-cream truck. Still, heads turn as the skinny, battery-powered buses hum through the streets. They seat only 10 people and are guided by GPS and supplementary sensors, including lasers and cameras, that send live data to a control center.

The buses go no faster than 20 kph (12 1/2 mph), but the trials in Trikala (pronounced TREE-kah-lah) potentially represent a major advance for automated transport.

"There were cities bidding for this project all over Europe. They offered relatively restricted urban areas. But we said we could make it happen in a downtown environment and we won," said Odiseas Raptis, who heads the city's digital project department, e-Tri-



In this photo taken on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015, a local resident takes a photo of the tiny CityMobil2 driverless bus in Trikala town, Greece. Associated Press

kala. "We have a 2.4-kilometer (1.5-mile) route, the bus route. It's mixed with traffic, with pedestrians, with bicycles, with cars ... That hasn't been done before."

Vasilis Karavidas, chief technician for the project in Greece, trained with Robosoft, the company that developed the bus, in the southwest French town of Bidart.

Although the driverless buses are fully automated with onboard navigation and obstacle detection systems, each vehicle will be monitored by a driver in the control center who can override the system, Karavidas said.

"It's as if they are in here and they can stop the bus if they want to, if something goes wrong," he said.

The buses are currently running without passengers, with full testing to start later this month when a fiber-optic network allowing faster data transmission is completed. Six battery-powered vehicles will eventually be used in this farming town of 80,000 that has become hooked on high-tech.

Trikala already has already tested EU-funded pilot medical programs, including schemes to relay heart test data from home to the doctor's office and use tracker devices for Alzheimer patients. In the

center of the city, a "digital tree" with solar panels allows benches to carry phone-charging outlets. The 28-nation European Union is targeting gasoline use for city transport as

one area where it wants to reduce carbon emissions. With oil prices and city populations expected to rise in the coming decades, a major shift to battery power and more

shared transport could blur the line between private and public vehicles.

Senior transport analyst Philippe Crist at the International Transport Forum, an OECD think-tank based in Paris, says transport trends are hard to predict as the world moves more toward automation.

"We too often look at technological changes in isolation," said Crist. "There is a good chance that these technologies will create entirely new uses that we can only poorly grasp today. The reality is that everything is changing around these technologies and it is plausible that society may lose interest in owning cars or using fixed-service public transport — especially if these technologies allow better alternatives to emerge."

Models run by the think tank suggest that city transport could be made massively more efficient. □

Twitter debuts 'Moments' feature to highlight top stories

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter on Tuesday launched a new feature called "Moments" that helps highlight the top stories being tweeted.

The feature will showcase top stories being discussed, even if you don't follow the tweeters. It can be found by tapping a lightning bolt icon tab on the site or app. It will update the "Moments" throughout the day.

The "Moments" are a mix of news and fluffy trending topics. For example, two "Moments" on Tuesday included tweets about the South Carolina floods breaking dams and a pygmy hedgehog called Marutaro.

Twitter, which limits posts to 140 characters, has been trying to find a way to make the site easier to navigate and broaden its appeal beyond media junkies, athletes, celebrities and politicians. The short messaging service has amassed more than 300 million users but its growth has been slowing.

Meanwhile, Facebook has 1.5 billion people on its online social network and even its photo-sharing application, Instagram, has surpassed Twitter in size.

The news comes a day after Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey returned officially to the San Francisco company as CEO.

Shares fell \$1.16, or 4 percent, to \$26.99 during midday trading. □



This screen shot made Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015 shows the News section of Twitter's new "Moments" feature, as displayed on an iPhone. Associated Press

Wall Street gains on expectations of Fed inaction

**KEN SWEET
MARLEY JAY
AP Business Writers**

NEW YORK (AP) — Signs that the Federal Reserve would keep interest rates

and Nasdaq composite rose 19.64 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,810.79.

The S&P 500 has risen seven out of the last eight sessions and is now above 2,000, a

proving, citing the improving job market. But policy-makers had concerns that inflation continues to remain abnormally low, noting the recent drop in com-

we know that there is not a 'perfect' time to raise interest rates," said David Libovitz, global market strategist at JPMorgan Funds.

Scott Clemons, chief investment strategist for Brown Brothers Harriman's wealth management business, said investors no longer expect rates to go up this year, even though Chair Janet Yellen has said that's likely to happen. He added that the central bank is "beginning to falter" in communicating to investors what its plans are.

"The market has begun to conclude that they're the boy who cried wolf" where raising interest rates are concerned, Clemons said. The price of oil rose Thursday as the dollar weakened, making oil more attractive to overseas buyers, and on concerns that Russia's military actions in Syria raised the threat of a wider conflict in the region.

Energy stocks were among the biggest gainers on Thursday, following oil higher. Marathon Oil rose 5 percent, Occidental Petroleum was up 3 percent and Hess Corp. added 4 percent.

Benchmark U.S. oil rose \$1.62, or 3.4 percent, at \$49.43 a barrel in New York. Brent Crude, which is used to price international oils, gained \$1.72, or 3.4 percent, to \$53.05 a barrel in London. □



Trader Edward Landi works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Signs that the Federal Reserve would keep interest rates low for several more months pushed stocks broadly higher on Thursday.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

low for several more months pushed stocks broadly higher on Thursday, adding to what has been a near eight-day rally. Energy stocks advanced with the price of oil.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 138.46 points, or 0.8 percent, to 17,050.75. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 17.60 points, or 0.9 percent, to 2,013.43

psychological milestone, for the first time since mid-August.

Stocks spent most of the morning little changed, but moved steadily higher after investors had a chance to work through the minutes from the Fed's September policy meeting.

In the minutes, Fed officials expressed confidence that the U.S. economy was im-

modity prices, which were a major reason why the Fed did not raise interest rates. The Fed has kept interest rates near zero for nearly seven years now. The Fed has repeatedly signaled it wants to raise interest rates, but it has held off on doing so. "The Federal Reserve is waiting for the ideal time to raise rates. But, for those who live in the real world,

Bill Gross sues former employer, Pimco, for \$200M

**KEN SWEET
AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Billionaire bond investor Bill Gross has sued his former employer, Pimco, for more than \$200 million for breach of contract and plotting to oust him from the firm he founded more than four decades ago.

The suit, filed Thursday in Orange County, California, alleges that Pimco executives plotted to remove Gross in an internal power struggle that eventually led to him leaving the company in September 2014.

Pimco, which is based in Newport Beach, California, said the lawsuit

has no merit and the firm will respond in court.

The lawsuit focuses on the conflict between Gross, Mohammed El-Erian — once considered Gross' successor at Pimco — and other executives at the firm. In it, Gross contends that El-Erian wanted to move Pimco out of its traditional bond funds and into other types of investments, often with higher risk and higher returns.

After a protracted fight, El-Erian left Pimco in 2014 in what became a very public departure.

He remains an economic adviser for German insurer Allianz SE, Pimco's parent

company.

Gross contends that El-Erian's messy departure gave other executives the leverage to remove Gross from his positions of power, eventually leading to Gross leaving the company.

He later joined the mutual fund company Janus, where billions of investment dollars followed him.

Gross founded Pacific Investment Management Co., better known as Pimco, in the 1970s. Over the years, he and Pimco would become the biggest names in fixed-income mutual funds — his face a constant presence on CNBC and other business news

channels. Pimco's Total Return Fund, overseen directly by Gross, was by far the biggest bond fund with more than \$300 billion in assets at its peak. The firm's success made Gross a billionaire.

In the lawsuit, Gross demands a jury trial and no less than \$200 million in damages, citing a violation of his employment contract with Pimco and the compensation he would have received had he not left Pimco suddenly.

Patty Glaser, lead attorney for Bill Gross, said in a statement that all proceeds from the lawsuit will go to charity. □

Deutsche Bank shares slide on dividend woes

BERLIN (AP) — Shares in Deutsche Bank dropped Thursday after the company said it would post a multibillion-euro loss in the third quarter and may scrap this year's dividend payment. In an unscheduled statement late Wednesday, Germany's biggest bank said it expects to report a third-quarter net loss of 6.2 billion euros (\$7 billion) because of a combination of write-downs and litigation costs.

It also said its management board will recommend a reduction or possible elimination of the dividend for this year.

Despite the scale of the potential loss and the prospect of no dividend payment, investors initially responded positively to the move by the bank's new leadership, pushing the shares higher. But by the close of markets in Frankfurt they were down 1.8 percent at 25.03 euros (\$28.17).

New co-CEO John Cryan, who took the helm in mid-summer, wrote to employees that Deutsche Bank was taking charges totaling 7.6 billion euros for the July-September quarter.

The lion's share of that comes from 5.8 billion euros related in part to writing down the value of units within its corporate banking and private client divisions. Specifically, the bank noted Bankers Trust, which it bought in 1999, and Deutsche Postbank that it acquired in 2010. Deutsche Bank now plans to spin off Postbank branches.

Deutsche Bank is also revaluing its 19.99 percent holding in China's Hua Xia Bank, a move driven by a decision to no longer consider the stake strategic. That will cost it 600 million euros.

The bank also is making litigation provisions of some 1.2 billion euros, which Cryan said "may be affected by further events" before final quarterly results are released on Oct. 29. □

Amazon challenges Etsy with Handmade at Amazon

MAE ANDERSON
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon is launching its site for handcrafted goods called Handmade at Amazon on Thursday, hoping to capitalize on shoppers' appetite for homemade goods ahead of the holiday season. The move throws down the gauntlet to craft-selling site Etsy. But at least at the time of launch, the two sites will have a very differ-

ent seller base, fee structure and stances on manufacturing.

Amazon started offering invitations in May to join Handmade, giving sellers access to Amazon's 285 million shoppers. The Seattle-based retailer says the site, which will carry everything from \$30 walnut cuf-links from Australia to \$325 handmade quilts from Wisconsin, sprang from customer feedback and site

searches for crafty items. "We had thousands of searches every day from customers looking for handmade or handcrafted items," said Peter Faricy, vice president for Amazon Marketplace. That focus also pits it directly against Etsy Inc., which started 10 years ago as a marketplace for homemade goods and went public in April. But they're a bit different in size and scope.

At launch, Handmade at Amazon will include about 5,000 sellers from 50 states and 60 countries offering 80,000 items. Amazon takes a 12 percent fee from overall sales made by Handmade at Amazon sellers and includes payment processing, discounted shipping and access to other Amazon services. There's no listing fee or monthly fee to start. In contrast, New York-

based Etsy has 1.5 million sellers and 21.7 million buyers as of June 30. It takes a 3.5 percent fee on overall sales and a 20 cent listing fee per item listed.

They also differ in terms of manufacturing policy. Amazon says sellers have to fill out an online application to be approved to sell on the site and all items sold on the site must be "factory-free" and not made by manufacturers. □

Netflix raising US price for most popular video plan by \$1



This photo shows Netflix headquarters in Los Gatos, Calif. Netflix on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015 announced it is raising the price of its Internet video service by \$1 in the U.S. and several other countries to help cover its escalating costs for shows such as "House of Cards" and other original programming.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Netflix is raising the price of its Internet video service by \$1 for new customers in the U.S., Canada and some Latin America countries to help cover its escalating costs for shows such as "House of Cards" and other original programming. The new price of \$10 per

month for Netflix's standard plan — its most popular — marks the second time in 17 months that Los Gatos, California, company has boosted its U.S. rates by \$1. The trend reflects the financial pressure that Netflix is facing as it competes against Amazon.com, HBO and other services for the rights to TV series and movies that will expand its audi-

ence. Netflix's 42 million existing U.S. subscribers are being insulated from the price bump. That's a move CEO Reed Hastings is taking in an effort to avoid a repeat of the customer backlash that stung the company four years ago when it raised rates by as much as 60 percent for subscribers who wanted Internet video

and DVD-by-mail rentals. The abrupt price increase in 2011 triggered an exodus that cost Netflix more than 800,000 subscribers and caused its stock to lose 80 percent of its value in a tumultuous 13-month period. The experience taught Netflix to reward its existing subscribers as higher prices are phased in on new customers.

Subscribers who have been with Netflix since May 2014 will still pay \$8 per month under a two-year rate freeze adopted when the company last raised its U.S. prices by \$1. Customers who signed up since the last price increase will pay \$9 per month until October 2016.

Netflix's audience continued to expand after last year's price increase, a pattern that investors appear confident that will be occur again with the latest uptick in rates. Netflix's stock surged \$6.83, or 6.8 percent, to \$114.93 Thursday.

Wall Street has been hop-

ing Netflix would increase its prices because its profit margins have been shrinking as the company's expenses climb for programming and an aggressive international expansion.

Netflix Inc.'s programming costs are expected to rise from \$3 billion this year to \$5 billion next year. The research firm Ampere Analysis predicts Netflix will be paying \$6 billion annually for its line-up by 2018.

Some of that money is being spent on previously released TV series and movies, but Netflix is pouring more money for shows that can only be found on its service — a formula that has been highly successful for HBO's pay-TV channel.

The strategy has paid off for Netflix too as its U.S. customer base has swelled by about 70 percent from 25 million subscribers since the 2013 debut of "House of Cards," the service's first major splash in original programming. Netflix now features dozens of exclusive programs. □

VW may compensate owners of diesel cars for loss of value

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Volkswagen could compensate owners of diesel-powered cars that emit high levels of pollutants, possibly by paying them for the lost value of their vehicles, the company's top U.S. executive said Thursday. Speaking to lawmakers investigating the emissions cheating, U.S. CEO Michael Horn also said fixing most of

the 500,000 affected cars in the U.S. could take one to two years, possibly more. The fix, he said, would not hurt fuel mileage, but it could hinder the cars' performance, knocking one or two miles-per-hour off the top speed.

"There might be a slight impact on performance," Horn said to a subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Under questioning from Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., Horn said VW isn't considering offering owners loaner cars because the U.S. government says the diesels equipped with a so-called defeat device are safe to drive.

The cars, though, emit 10 to 40 times the nitrogen oxide pollution that's allowed under federal law.

VW has admitted to installing the defeat devices on

Volkswagen and Audi cars with four-cylinder diesel engines dating to the 2009 model year.

The devices switch on pollution controls when the cars are being tested, but turn off the controls when the software determines that the cars are back on real roads. Affected models include the Jetta, Golf, Beetle, Passat and Audi A3. VW has said a total of 11 million cars worldwide have

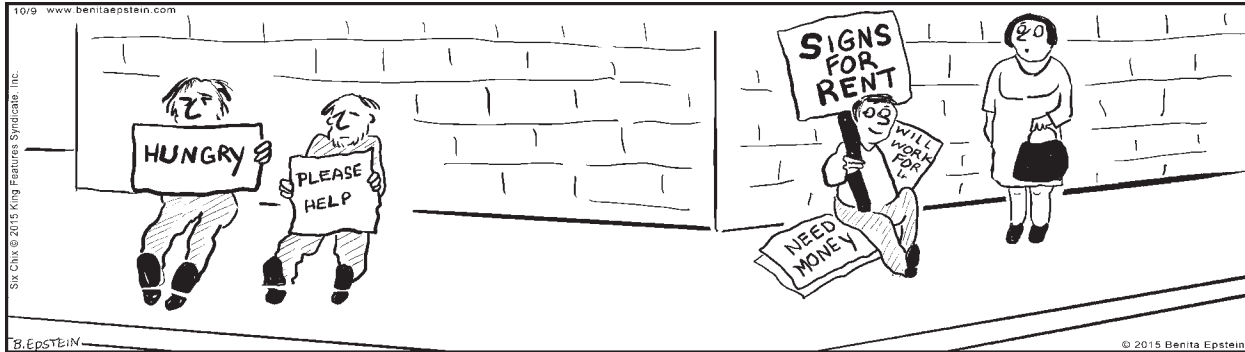
the software worldwide.

Horn said software changes alone will work to fix newer models, but 430,000 cars dating to 2009 will need mechanical repairs that are still being developed. Horn said engineers are working on either a larger catalytic converter that would treat nitrogen oxide, or a system that injects a chemical called urea into the exhaust. □

Mutts



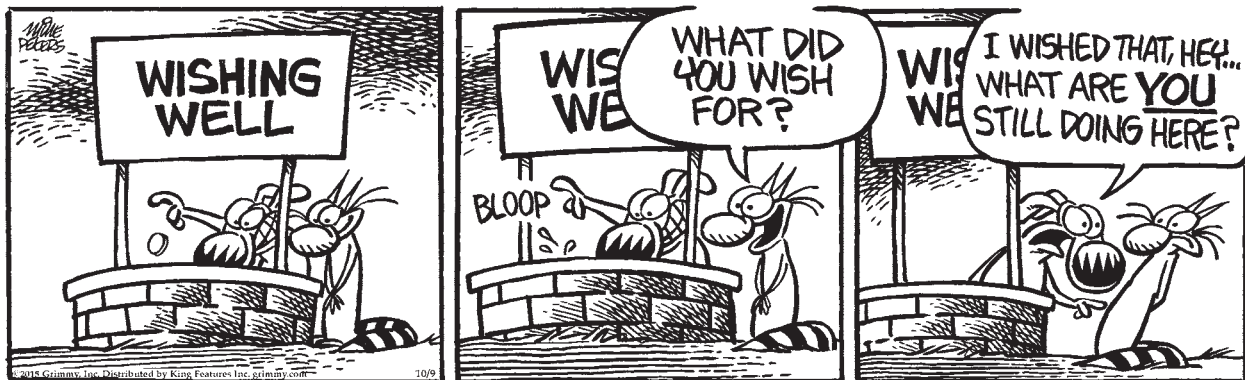
6 Chix



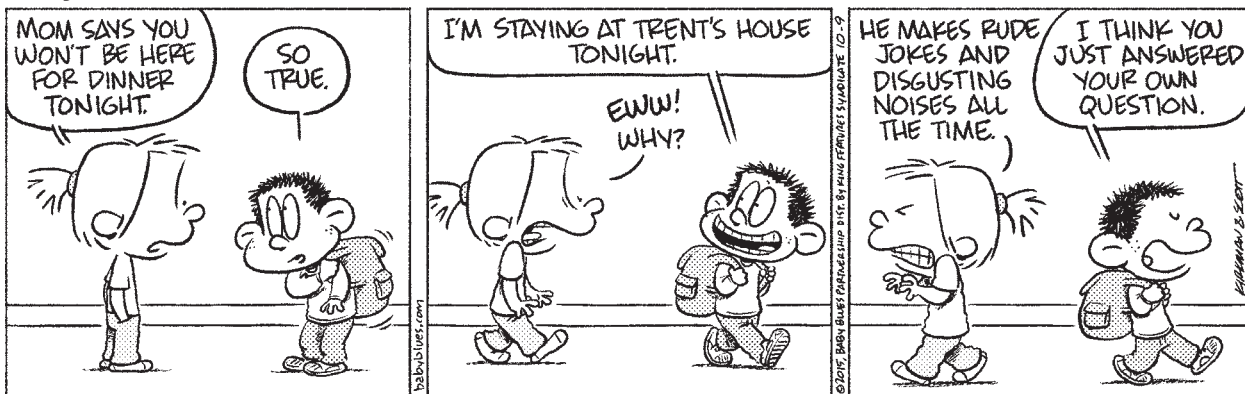
Blondie



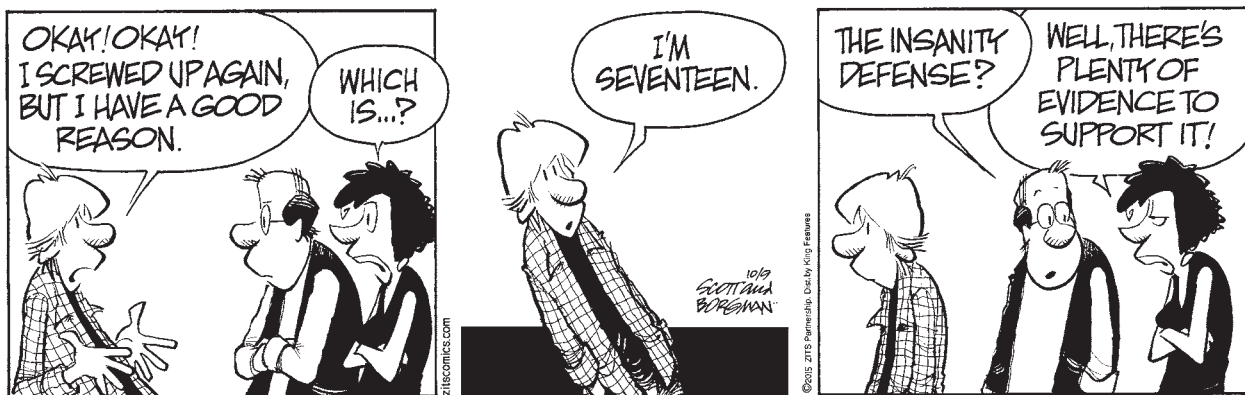
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

1	4			5			3	9
5			8		3			2
	3			9			1	
9								5
	6			7			8	
4			2		5			7
8	7			1			6	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/09

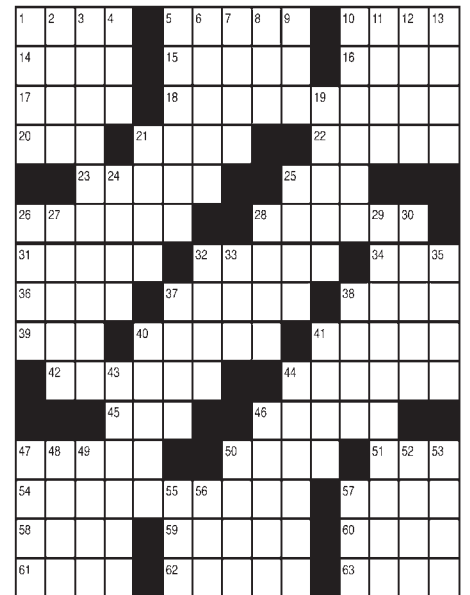
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	5	2	3	7	9	6	4	8
4	9	3	6	5	8	1	7	2
7	6	8	1	4	2	9	5	3
3	8	6	4	2	7	5	1	9
9	1	5	8	3	6	7	2	4
2	7	4	9	1	5	3	8	6
8	4	1	5	9	3	2	6	7
5	2	9	7	6	4	8	3	1
6	3	7	2	8	1	4	9	5

ACROSS

- 1 in; resist no longer
- 5 Water vapor
- 10 "Long Way to Tipperary"
- 14 Signed an IOU
- 15 Lift with effort
- 16 Cruel
- 17 Table supports
- 18 Indignation at unfair treatment
- 20 HST's follower
- 21 Monthly expense
- 22 Tricks
- 23 Yes-man
- 25 TV's Rather
- 26 Rascals
- 28 Ebb
- 31 Planet's path
- 32 Win a game fraudulently
- 34 Most common conjunction
- 36 and pepper
- 37 Event on a court schedule
- 38 Donate
- 39 Small bill
- 40 Courted
- 41 Narrow boat
- 42 Shun
- 44 One who dies for his beliefs
- 45 Boy
- 46 Temple leader
- 47 Thread holder
- 50 Hairpieces
- 51 Org. for Spurs and Suns
- 54 In ; being argued about
- 57 "I've working on the railroad..."
- 58 Cry from a flu shot clinic
- 59 Sew lightly
- 60 As wise owl
- 61 Spruce or larch
- 62 Mountaintop
- 63 for; requests



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/9/15

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

SOS	PACED	ABAT
AWED	ATONE	VALE
NEAR	MINDS	EDEN
SLEEPLESS	NEST	
SLAT	EMU	
PRISMS	CORRECTS	
RISES	PLOTS	RAP
ALAS	PROPS	LACE
TEA	GLOSS	MUSIC
ESCAPADE	SIGHTS	
MAC	HANG	
SLOB	ASSISTANT	
COAL	ROOTS	GOYA
ACHE	DAFOE	ESPY
THUD	SPARS	HOE

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10/9/15

- 3 Carrots and spinach
- 4 Asner & Begley
- 5 Tears to bits
- 6 Very small
- 7 Orient
- 8 "Maria"
- 9 Beard wearers
- 10 to; not likely to catch, as a disease
- 11 Golf ball pegs
- 12 Not bananas
- 13 Crawling bugs
- 19 Stretch of land
- 21 Engrossed
- 24 Leave out
- 25 Good buy
- 26 Unexceptional
- 27 Wading bird
- 28 Peruse
- 29 Delicacy; petiteness
- 30 Ambassador
- 32 Noisy bird
- 33 Go quickly
- 35 Buck or doe
- 37 the line; followed orders

DOWN

- 1 Freezing
- 2 Filled with wonder

- 38 Attire
- 40 Blue ; largest mammal
- 41 Taxis
- 43 Put togs on; dress
- 44 Attractive piece of metal?
- 46 Public uprisings
- 47 Glasgow fellow
- 48 Rain hard
- 49 A single time
- 50 Intelligent
- 52 Bird's bill
- 53 Curry & others
- 55 CBS competitor
- 56 Paving goop
- 57 Sheep's cry

Classifieds



United States' Phil Mickelson watches his shot during his foursome match at the Presidents Cup golf tournament at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea, in Incheon, South Korea, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

The Presidents Cup: Notes on peanut butter and jelly sandwiches

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

INCHEON, South Korea

(AP) — The Presidents Cup is being held in Asia for the first time, and one critical component got lost in translation.

How to make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. That's been a staple for years during long days of matches and even some practice rounds. But it took most of the week at the Jack Nicklaus Golf Club Korea for the food handlers to understand exactly what they wanted.

On the first day, the Americans got their order of the PB&J — one sandwich was filled with peanut butter, another was filled with jelly. Davis Love III, an assistant captain at these matches, politely explained that the peanut butter and jelly are in the same sandwich. The next day was a slight improvement. The sandwich featured a piece of bread that was spread with peanut butter, another piece of bread, then the jelly and then more bread, much like a club sandwich.

"We finally showed him what we wanted," Love

said. "You spread the peanut butter on the bread, then the jelly. He said, 'OK, I can do that. But it's gross.'"

Alas, the Americans finally got the sandwiches they wanted. The International team? That still required some work.

Nick Price's team was asked what kind of sand-

wiches they wanted for the final practice session on Thursday. The request was for ham and cheese, and peanut butter and jelly. And that's what they got — only it was one sandwich.

Between two slices of bread were ham, cheese, peanut butter and jelly. Now that's gross. □

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Scientists: Major coral bleaching crisis spreads worldwide

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The bleaching of colorful coral is spreading into a worldwide, devastating crisis, scientists say, and they predict it will likely get worse.

Triggered by global warming and the El Nino, record hot ocean water is causing fragile coral to go white and often die, threatening picturesque reefs that are hotspots of marine life, experts say.

The spread of sickly white started more than a year ago in Guam, then devastated Hawaii, infected the rest of the tropical Pacific and the Indian oceans and has now infested Florida and the Caribbean. On Thursday, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and international reef scientists pronounced it a global coral bleaching event, only the third in recorded history.

No place with coral has been spared, though some regions — such as Hawaii — have been hit harder than others, experts said. Excessive heat stresses the living coral, which turns white and then becomes vulnerable to disease.

"We may be looking at losing somewhere in the range of 10 to 20 percent of the coral reefs this year," NOAA coral reef watch coordinator Mark Eakin said. "The bad news for the U.S. is we're getting hit disproportionately just because of the pattern of the warming."

He called bleaching a crisis, especially with worsening global warming forecast for the rest of the century: "If that's not a crisis, what is?"

Eakin said he's especially

concerned about Hawaii, which already suffered through bad bleaching in 2014.

"Hawaii is getting hit with the worst coral bleaching they have ever seen, right now," Eakin said. "It's severe. It's extensive. And it's on all the islands."

In one part of northwest-

Republic and is about to hit Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, he said.

Warm water causes bleaching and ocean temperatures are at record high levels, partly because of steady man-made global warming and partly because of the El Nino, which is an occa-

was worse, but that was the second year of an El Nino and we're in the first of two years now, Eakin said.

Oceans worldwide are by far the warmest on record — August 2015 was four-tenths of a degree warmer than in August 1998. Next year, he said, may be as

The computer model forecasts "this horrendous dramatic" impact on the Great Barrier Reef, Hodgson said. "It's truly terrifying."

This isn't just a problem for divers and fish; coral reefs are crucial globally, Eakin said. Coral reefs protect shorelines, produce tour-



This photo provided by the XL Catlin Seaview Survey, taken in December 2014, shows coral before bleaching in American Samoa. The first image was taken when the XL Catlin Seaview Survey responded to a NOAA coral bleaching alert. Associated Press

ern Hawaii, "the reef just completely bleached and all of the coral is dead and covered with scuzzy algae."

Florida started getting hit in August. The middle Florida Keys aren't too bad, but in southeast Florida, bleaching has combined with disease to kill corals, Eakin said. It has also hit Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican

sional warming of the central Pacific that changes weather worldwide, Eakin said. Add to that Hawaii's "blob," a pool of warm water that has stagnated in the northeast Pacific.

The last super El Nino, in 1997-1998, was the first global bleaching event. A smaller El Nino in 2009-2010 was the second.

So far the 1998 bleaching

bad as this year or even worse.

NOAA produced forecasts of bleaching that show it as a giant red blob moving across the globe again. And what worries marine ecologist Gregor Hodgson, who heads the group ReefCheck, is the forecast that the blob will hit the Great Barrier Reef in Australia next spring.

ism dollars and help provide food for 500 million people around the world, he said. Even though coral reefs are one-tenth of 1 percent of the ocean floor by area, they are home to 25 percent of the world's fish species, Eakin said.

"You kill coral, you destroy reefs, you don't have a place for the fish to live," Eakin said. □

Janet Jackson, Chicago, The Cars nominated for rock hall

DAVID BAUDER

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Janet Jackson, Steve Miller, Chicago and The Cars are among the first-time nominees being considered for induction next year in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Cheap Trick, Los Lobos, Chaka Khan and James Brown's famed backup band The J.B.'s also are new to the ballot. Eight of the 15 potential honorees are first-timers, although none are in their first year of eligibility.

More than 800 artists and members of the music industry vote on the inductees, who will be announced in December. Fans can also vote on the rock hall's website toward

a "fan's ballot" that will also be counted.

Artists back on the ballot for another try are Chic, Deep Purple, N.W.A., Nine Inch Nails, the Smiths, the Spinners and Yes.

Janet — Miss Jackson if you're nasty — would uphold a family tradition. The Jackson 5 were inducted in 1997 and her late brother Michael joined as a solo artist in 2001. The singer of "If," "All For You" and "That's the Way Love Goes" just released "Unbreakable," her first new disc since 2008.

The California-based Miller, with hits like "Fly Like an Eagle" and "Jet Airliner" to his name, was a stalwart of 1970s radio along with the jazzy soft rock of Chicago, known for "Co-

lour My World" and "If You Leave Me Now." The Cars' brittle New Wave pop of "My Best Friend's Girl" helped define the turn into the 1980s. Los Lobos' "How Will the Wolf Survive" and "Kiko" albums were critical favorites and the band has endured as a top live act.

The stuttering recitation of Chaka Khan's name was a signature of her 1984 hit "I Feel For You." The J.B.'s well-disciplined tightness and supreme funk made them among the most sampled artists in music. Midwestern favorites Cheap Trick's Beatles-at-top-volume sound became a hit after they traveled to Japan and made a live album before an enthusiastic audience.



In this June 28, 2015, file photo, Janet Jackson accepts the ultimate icon: music dance visual award at the BET Awards in Los Angeles.
Associated Press

Artists are eligible for the hall 25 years after their first music is released. Acts nominated in their first year of eligibility, like Green Day last year, usually are slam dunks for inclusion but no one fits that bill this year.

Of the returning nominees, Los Angeles rappers N.W.A. received a major publicity boost through the move "Straight Outta Compton." This is the fourth year in a row they've been nominated. The nomination process hasn't resulted in "Good

Times" for Chic. This marks their 10th time as a nominee; no other artist has been nominated so many times without induction.

The Cleveland-based Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum generally inducts five performers a year, along with separately considered inductees in categories like non-performers or early influences. The induction ceremony will be in New York in April, at a venue and date to be announced later, and HBO will televise it at a later date. □

'Ant-Man' sequel set for 2018, 'The Incredibles 2' for 2019

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Marvel and Disney are going microscopic again.

"Ant-Man and the Wasp," a sequel to this summer's "Ant-Man," will be released on July 6, 2018, the studio announced Thursday.

In addition, Disney and Pixar have set a June 2019 release date for "The Incredibles 2," 15 years after the release of Brad Bird's beloved original film.

Disney, which crossed the \$4 billion box office mark for 2015 this week, set dates and a few titles involving 19 films through 2020 in a gigantic announcement that included four live-action fairy tales.

"We are set to deliver some fantastic movies well into the future," said Dave Hollis, Disney's Executive Vice President for Theatrical Distribution.

The "Ant-Man" sequel will mark the first time a Marvel movie will include the name of a female character in a title. The studio has been criticized in the past for not highlighting its female superheroes in standalone films.



In this July 13, 2015 file photo, Paul Rudd attends a special screening of "Ant-Man" in New York.
Associated Press

The next will be "Captain Marvel," which has been pushed back to March of 2019.

Evangeline Lilly portrayed the Wasp in the first Ant-Man film, which earned \$409.8 million worldwide.

The announcement did not specify whether she or Paul Rudd, who played Ant-Man, would be reprising their roles for the sequel, but most actors in Marvel films are signed for multi-year, multi-film contracts.

Also coming in the summer of 2018 is "Toy Story 4," which has been delayed a

year.

Walt Disney Animation Studios and John Lasseter, CEO of Pixar, said in August at the D23 fan convention, that the film will be a love story between Woody and Bo Peep, who have been voiced in previous films by Tom Hanks and Annie Potts.

Disney also announced six untitled films for 2020, including three Marvel films, two Pixar releases, and one Disney Animation offering. "Black Panther," starring Chadwick Boseman, was moved up five months for a February 2018 release. □

'Straight Outta Compton' director set for 'Fast & Furious'

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — F. Gary Gray, who made waves this summer with his profitable and critically acclaimed N.W.A biopic "Straight Outta Compton," has been set to direct the eighth film in the "Fast & Furious" franchise.

Gray announced the news on his Facebook page on Thursday and Universal Pictures confirmed.

Star and producer Vin Diesel posted a photo of himself and Gray with

some "Fast & Furious" images on Facebook earlier this week, hinting that the "Compton" director was indeed the front runner to take over the extremely successful series.

"Furious 7," released earlier this year, grossed a staggering \$1.5 billion worldwide. James Wan directed that film, which featured Paul Walker's final appearance in the series. Walker died in 2013.

The eighth installment is set for an April 14, 2017 release. □

Prudhomme, Louisiana chef who popularized Cajun food, dies

JANET MCCONNAUGHEY
REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Paul Prudhomme, the Cajun who popularized spicy Louisiana cuisine and became one of the first American restaurant chefs to achieve worldwide fame, died Thursday. He was 75. Tiffanie Roppolo, the CFO of Prudhomme's business, told The Associated Press that he died early Thursday after a brief illness.

Prudhomme became prominent in the early 1980s, soon after opening K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen, a French Quarter diner that served the meals of his childhood. He had no formal training, but sparked a nationwide interest in Cajun food by serving dishes — gumbo, etouffee and jambalaya — that were virtually unknown outside Louisiana.

The distinctly American chef became a sensation at a time when the country's top restaurants served virtually nothing but European food.

"He was always on a mission and nothing was impossible for Paul. He did things his way and let the food speak for itself," said chef Frank Brigtsen, who worked for Prudhomme for seven years. "He changed the way we eat in New Orleans in a major way, by bringing Acadian or Cajun cuisine to the restaurants of the city."

Prudhomme was known for his innovations. His most famous dishes used the technique he called blackening: fish or meat covered with spices, then seared until black in a red-hot skillet. Blackened redfish became so popular that Prudhomme lamented over customers who stopped ordering the traditional Cajun dishes that he loved.

"We had all this wonderful food, we raised our own rabbit and duck, and all anyone wanted was blackened redfish," he said in a 1992 interview.



In this Friday, Feb. 2, 2007 file photo, chef Paul Prudhomme gestures during an interview at his French Quarter restaurant, K-Paul's Louisiana Kitchen, in New Orleans. Associated Press

Prudhomme was raised by his sharecropper parents on a farm near Opelousas, in Louisiana's Acadiana region. The youngest of 13 children, he spent much of his time in the kitchen with his mother, whom he credited for developing his appreciation of rich flavors and the fresh vegetables, poultry and seafood that she cooked.

"My mother was a fabulous cook. With her I began to understand about seasoning, about blending taste, about cooking so things were worth eating," he said.

After high school Prudhomme travelled the country cooking in bars, diners, resorts and hotel restaurants. He returned to New Orleans in the early 1970s and found a job as chef in a hotel restaurant. In 1975, he became the head chef at the esteemed Commander's Palace restaurant. He and his wife opened K-Paul's four years later.

K-Paul's was inexpensive and unassuming — formica tables, plywood walls and drinks served in jars — but it was soon the most popular restaurant in New Orleans. Word spread through town and around the country, and people soon waited in line for hours to taste Prudhomme's creations.

"Chef Paul" was known for experimenting in the kitchen, often altering recipes with different seasonings

and cooking processes. He particularly liked varying blends of three peppers: black, white and cayenne. Prudhomme's bearded face and oversized frame became familiar on television talk shows in the 1980s, where he encouraged Americans to spice up their meals. He expanded K-Paul's and turned it into an upscale operation. He published bestselling cookbooks and created a business that sold his spicy seasoning mixtures around the country. Prudhomme's success brought regrets, as well. Prudhomme sparked the Cajun food craze, but he often said few Cajun restaurants outside Louisiana served the real thing. He worried over the common perception that all Cajun food is blistering hot. "It's my fault. I admit it. I'm at least partly to blame that so many people think all Cajun food is red-hot and spicy," he said. "I see people dumping red pepper on food and I feel like crying. They can't taste anything but the pepper. Cajun foods have tons of different flavors. Don't cover them up."

Prudhomme's weight, as much as his cooking skills, was a career trademark. Just over 5 feet tall, he had trouble squeezing into chairs. He had a bad knee, used a cane and usually moved in a scooter instead of walking. □



Melissa Etheridge performs for inmates at the Ohio Reformatory for Women in Marysville, Ohio, on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015. Associated Press

Melissa Etheridge sings for inmates at Ohio women's prison

MARYSVILLE, Ohio (AP)

— A video of female inmates singing one of her songs led to Melissa Etheridge performing with the group at an Ohio prison. The singer performed solo Wednesday for about 2,300 inmates at the Ohio Reformatory for Women, The Columbus Dispatch reported. They sat on a recreation field at the Marysville facility as Etheridge sang a few songs and offered encouragement from a small stage. She said she'd been moved by a video of inmates in an addiction-recovery group singing "A Little Bit of Me." She closed with the song and invited members of the group to come up and sing with her.

The Harmony Project, a

Columbus community choir, has been singing with the group every week for the last several years.

Etheridge later visited their dormitory, where she left her autographed handprints in paint on the wall and encouraged inmates to contact her when they're released.

"It was amazing; she really touched my heart and she really gave me a lot of hope," said Georgia Peterman of Portsmouth, who has six months remaining on a three-year sentence for manufacturing methamphetamine. "I'm really glad I got to be a part of this." Etheridge told the inmates after the show that she thinks she might have to write her next song about them. □



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